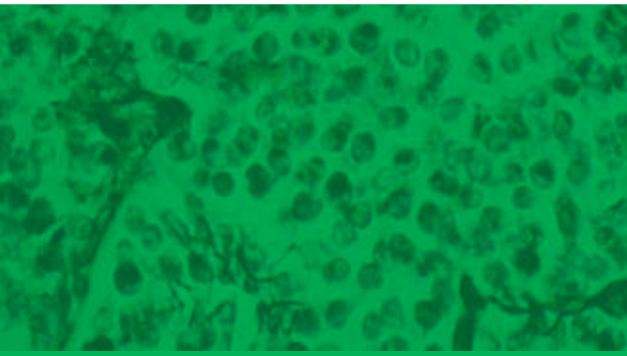
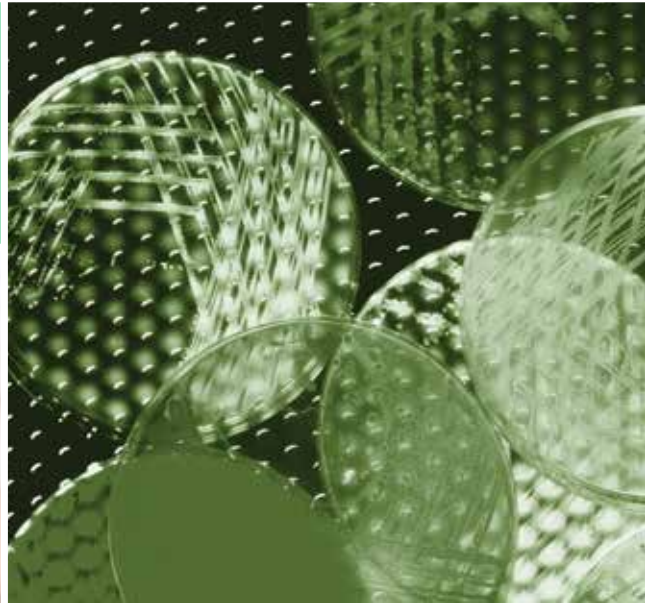


## Antimicrobial Policy for Children age 1 month to 16 years (Age less than 1 month, see Policy for Neonates)



**Do not** use antimicrobials unless absolutely essential

# 2013 15

# Contents

## Antimicrobial Treatment Guidelines

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## Abbreviations

<b>BD</b>	Every 12 hours
<b>FBC</b>	Full Blood Count
<b>CCDC</b>	Consultant in Community Diseases Control
<b>CMV</b>	Cytomegalovirus
<b>CRP</b>	C-Reactive Protein
<b>CSF</b>	Cerebrospinal Fluid
<b>CSU</b>	Catheter Specimen Urine
<b>CXR</b>	Chest X-Ray
<b>DMSO</b>	Dimethyl Sulphoxide
<b>ELISA</b>	Enzyme Linked Immunoassay
<b>ESBL</b>	Extended Spectrum Beta Lactamase
<b>ET</b>	Endotracheal
<b>GRE</b>	Glycopeptide Resistant Enterococci
<b>GUM</b>	Genito-Urinary Medicine
<b>HPA</b>	Health Protection Agency
<b>HVS</b>	High Vaginal Swabs
<b>IF</b>	Immunofluorescence
<b>IgG</b>	Immunoglobulin G
<b>i/v</b>	intravenous
<b>kg</b>	Kilogram
<b>LFT</b>	Liver Function Tests
<b>LP</b>	Lumber Puncture
<b>MCUG</b>	Micturating Cystourethrogram
<b>mg</b>	Milligram
<b>mL</b>	Millilitre
<b>MRSA</b>	Meticillin Resistant Staphylococcus Aureous
<b>NPA</b>	Nasopharyngeal Aspirate
<b>OD</b>	Once Daily
<b>PICC</b>	Peripherally Inserted Catheter
<b>PCR</b>	Polymerase Chain Reaction
<b>PROM</b>	Premature Rupture of Membranes
<b>QDS</b>	Every 6 hours
<b>RDS</b>	Respiratory Distress Syndrome
<b>ROM</b>	Rupture of Membranes
<b>RSV</b>	Respiratory Syncytial Virus
<b>SBR</b>	Serum Bilirubin
<b>SPA</b>	Suprapubic Aspirate
<b>SROM</b>	Spontaneous Rupture Of Membranes
<b>TDS</b>	Every 8 hours
<b>TORCH</b>	<i>Toxoplasma gondi</i> , <i>Rubella</i> , <i>CMV</i> , <i>Herpes simplex</i>
<b>UAC</b>	Umbilical Artery Catheter
<b>UEs</b>	Urea and Electrolytes
<b>UTI</b>	Urinary Tract Infection
<b>UVC</b>	Umbilical Venous Catheter
<b>VZIg</b>	Varicella Zoster Immunoglobulin
<b>VIP</b>	Venous Inflammatory Phlebitis score
<b>WCC</b>	White Cell Count

## Antimicrobial Policy

### Introduction

The aim of these guidelines is to optimise antimicrobial prescribing within both Barnsley Hospital NHS Foundation Trust and The Rotherham NHS Foundation Trust. Antimicrobials are over-prescribed in many health institutions and both these hospitals are not exempt. These guidelines would not only attempt to provide the best quality of care to manage patients with infections but also to reduce microbial resistance, healthcare associated infections and overall cost. The prudent use of antimicrobials in order to minimise the emergence of resistance has also been emphasised by the House of Lords and Department of Health (1998).[1]

The Chief Medical Officer in his report "Winning Ways" (December 2003) [2] has set out a clear direction on the actions required to reduce the level of healthcare associated infections and to curb the proliferation of antimicrobial-resistant organisms. Furthermore, antimicrobial usage has also been addressed in some of the domains of the Saving Lives toolkit[3] and more recently the Infection Control Code of Practice (September 2006)[4] has set standards for appropriate antimicrobial prescribing.

### ANTIMICROBIAL RESISTANCE (The Path of Least Resistance)

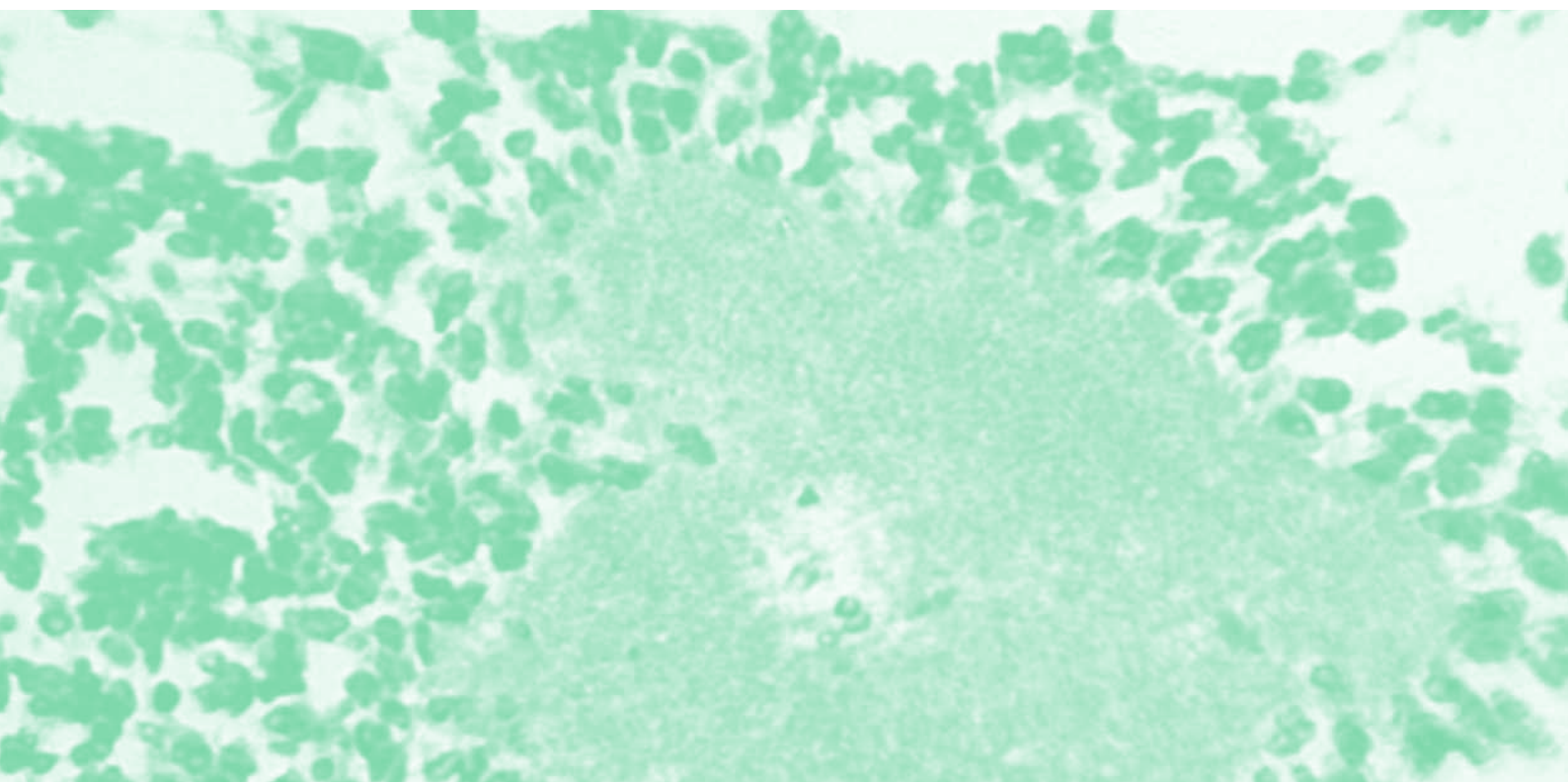
There is a growing national and international concern about the increasing resistance of micro-organisms to antimicrobial agents (House of Lords Select Committee on Science and Technology, Standing Medical Advisory Committee 1998).[5] This resistance is an inevitable consequence of antimicrobial use by Darwinian selection pressure. Resistance makes infections more difficult, and often more expensive to treat and may increase complications and length of hospital stay. The Chief Medical Officer has highlighted the importance of prudent use of antimicrobials, i.e. appropriate choice, dose and duration of antimicrobial therapy in his report "Winning Ways" (December 2003).[2]

In general, the more broad-spectrum antimicrobials are more likely to be associated with the emergence of resistance, furthermore some of the less broad-spectrum antimicrobials such as ciprofloxacin can select for emergence of MRSA.

### ANTIMICROBIAL ASSOCIATED DIARRHOEA

Antimicrobial usage particularly the more broad-spectrum ones may lead to diarrhoea and Clostridium difficile colitis.

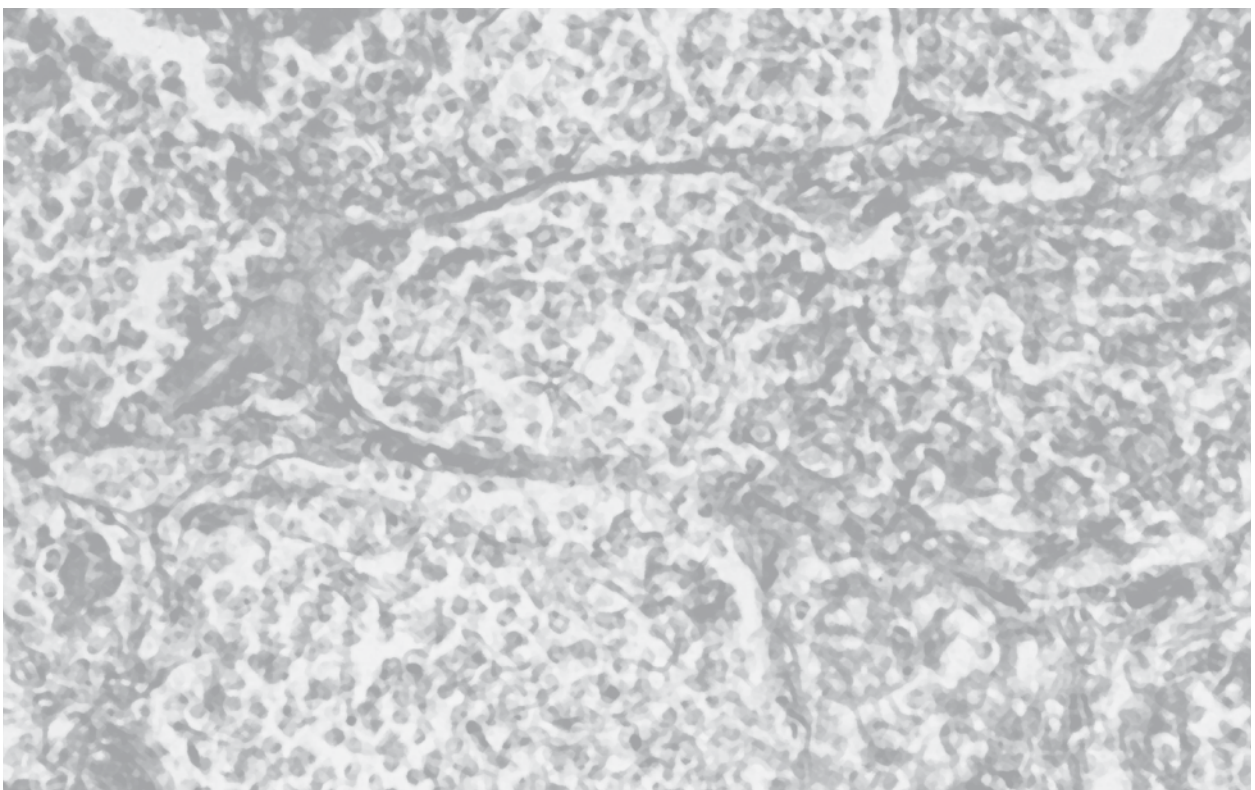
The aim of both hospitals is therefore not to use the more broad-spectrum antimicrobials.



## PRINCIPLES OF ANTIMICROBIAL PRESCRIBING

Before prescribing antimicrobials, consider ten fundamental questions:

1. Is the patient infected with a bacterial agent?
2. Are empirical antimicrobials necessary?
3. Have you checked antimicrobial allergies and their nature?
4. How can we make a microbiological diagnosis?  
Have the relevant specimens been obtained?  
(See user guide for more details).
5. Have you checked for any previous microbiology results?
6. Check for history of MRSA / ESBL /other resistant organisms and Clostridium difficile diarrhoea
7. What is the most appropriate antimicrobial therapy and how should it be given?
8. How can we monitor therapy?
9. What is the duration of antimicrobial therapy?
10. Are there any infection control/reporting issues?



## ESSENTIAL FACTS

- Encourage oral antimicrobials whenever possible
- Use IV antimicrobials only in serious infections or when patients are unable to take oral medication.
- After 24-48 hrs of IV therapy review the patient and consider switching to oral medication.
- Generally a total of 5 days of antimicrobials therapy should suffice for uncomplicated infections.
- Review antibiotics and clinical progress in the light of current microbiology results.
- Once the aetiological agent is identified, switch the broad spectrum therapy to a targeted narrow spectrum therapy.

Advice can always be obtained from the Department of Medical Microbiology. There is a 24 hour service, both technical and clinical, available for the investigation, treatment, and prevention of infections. Pharmacists may be contacted for dosage, therapeutic drug monitoring and medicines information.

## ADHERENCE TO THE POLICY

This will be achieved by monitoring prescribing on a daily basis and as a rolling programme of audits by the directorates and the microbiology department, as recommended by Saving Lives.<sup>[6]</sup>

### DRUG CHART

- Check for genuine allergy
- Check for MRSA status, ESBL producing and other resistant organisms and history of C.difficile diarrhoea
- Document INDICATION for therapy in the 'Additional instruction' section.
- Clearly document DOSE, ROUTE and DURATION of therapy

## RESTRICTED ANTIMICROBIAL AGENTS

The following drugs are restricted, unless recommended by the Policy, because of toxicity, excessive cost and/or specific and limited indications for use. However these are available in the pharmacy on a named patient basis after discussion with a Consultant Microbiologist.

A Micro Approval Code may be required.

### Antimicrobials restricted for use unless recommended in the Policy

Antimicrobials	Route
Amikacin	iv
Amphotericin	iv
Aztreonam	iv
Caspofungin	iv
Linezolid	oral iv
Meropenem	iv
Fusidic acid suspension Sodium fusidate tablets	oral

# SBAR Reporting Infection

## Attention all team members

For good communication about patients between all health professionals, use the SBAR tool before calling:

- ▶ **Assess the patient**
- ▶ **Know the admitting diagnosis**
- ▶ **Read the most recent progress notes and assessment from the prior shifts**
- ▶ **Have appropriate documents available eg Nursing and Medical Records, PAR (Patient at risk), Charts, Allergies, IV fluids, Resuscitation status**

## Situation

- ▶ **State your name and unit/ward**
- ▶ **I am calling about patient's name and age**
- ▶ **The reason I am calling is...**

## Background

- ▶ **State the admission diagnosis/working diagnosis and date of admission**
- ▶ **Relevant medical history including family history; underlying condition/ co morbidities**
- ▶ **A brief summary of treatment to date; current antimicrobial therapy and duration; recent antimicrobial use (within the last month if possible)**
- ▶ **History of MRSA/ ESBL/ other resistant organisms/ C.difficile diarrhoea**
- ▶ **Previous microbiology results**
- ▶ **Infective markers**

## Assessment

- ▶ **State**
  - ▶ **Allergies**
  - ▶ **Renal function**
  - ▶ **Hepatic function**

## Recommendation

- ▶ **I would like (state what you would like to see done)**
- ▶ **Determine timescale**
- ▶ **Is there anything else I should do?**
- ▶ **Record name and phone or bleep number of contact**
- ▶ **Patient concerns, expectations and wishes**

**Don't forget to document the call!**



## RESPIRATORY TRACT INFECTIONS - Community acquired infections [13]

### IMPORTANT before prescribing antimicrobials

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>History of MRSA</b> – Contact Microbiologist</li> <li>● Check for microbiology results</li> </ul> | <p><b>Take appropriate samples</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Cough swabs or sputum required in children with severe/ deteriorating illness</li> <li>● Blood culture in severe pneumonia</li> </ul> |
|---|---|

### ASSESSMENT OF SEVERITY

	Mild to moderate	Severe
Infants	Temperature <38.50°C Respiratory rate < 50 breaths/minute Mild recession Taking full feeds	Temperature >38.5°C Respiratory rate >70 breaths/minute Moderate to severe difficulty in breathing Nasal flaring Cyanosis Intermittent apnoea Grunting respiration Signs of dehydration Tachycardia* Capillary refill time ≥ 2 seconds
Older children	Temperature <38.5°C Respiratory rate < 50 breaths/minute Mild breathlessness No vomiting	Temperature >38.5°C Respiratory rate >50 breaths/min Severe difficulty in breathing Nasal flaring Cyanosis Grunting respiration Signs of dehydration Tachycardia* Capillary refill time ≥ 2 seconds

\*Values to define tachycardia vary with age and with temperature.

## RESPIRATORY TRACT INFECTIONS - Community acquired infections [13]

### IMPORTANT before prescribing antimicrobials

- **History of MRSA** – Contact Microbiologist
- Check for microbiology results

#### Take appropriate samples

- Cough swabs or sputum required in children with severe/ deteriorating illness
- Blood culture in severe pneumonia

INFECTION	USUAL ORGANISMS	ANTIMICROBIALS	COMMENTS
<b>Pneumonia</b>  Uncomplicated and not severe	<i>Streptococcus pneumoniae</i>  <i>Mycoplasma pneumoniae</i>  <i>Haemophilus influenzae</i>  <i>Chlamydia sp.</i>  Viral	<b>Amoxicillin oral for 7 days</b>  Add if no response or Mycoplasma or Chlamydia suspected <b>Clarithromycin oral</b>  If pneumonia associated with influenza <b>Co-amoxiclav oral</b>  Consider intravenous therapy if oral not tolerated and switch to oral as soon as evidence of improvement	Review empirical treatment in the light of microbiology results  Consider acute and convalescent serology for atypical infections including mycoplasma GPAT  <b>P</b> Penicillin allergy: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● From 1 to 6 months <b>Clarithromycin oral for 7 days</b></li> <li>● Over 6 months <b>Azithromycin oral for 3 days</b></li> </ul>

#### Amoxicillin oral

Age	Dose
1 month -1 year	125 mg tds
1 - 5 years	250 mg tds
5 - 18 years	500 mg tds

#### Amoxicillin i/v

Age	Dose
1 month - 18 years	50 mg/kg 4 - every 6 hours (max. 2 g every 4 hours)

#### Azithromycin oral

10mg/kg (max 500 mg) od  
or

Body weight	Dose
15-25 kg	200 mg od
26-35 kg	300 mg od
36-45 kg	400 mg od
Over 45 kg	500 mg od

#### Clarithromycin oral

Age 1 month - 12 years	
Body weight	Dose
Less than 8 kg	7.5 mg/kg bd
8-11 kg	62.5 mg bd
12-19 kg	125 mg bd
20-29 kg	187.5 mg bd
30-40 kg	250 mg bd
Age	Dose
12-18 years	500 mg bd

#### Clarithromycin i/v

Age	Dose
1 month - 12 years	7.5 mg/kg bd
12-18 years	500 mg bd

#### Co-amoxiclav oral

Age	Dose
1 month - 1 year	125/31susp 0.5 mL/ kg tds
1 - 6 years	250/62 susp 5 mL tds
6 - 12 years	250/62 susp 10 mL tds
12 - 18 years	500/125 tablets 1 tablet tds

#### Co-amoxiclav i/v

Age	Dose
1 month - 3 months	30 mg/kg every 12 hours
3 months - 18 years	30 mg/kg (max 1.2g) every 8 hours

## RESPIRATORY TRACT INFECTIONS - Community acquired infections [13]

**IMPORTANT Before prescribing antimicrobials**

- **History of MRSA or *Clostridium difficile*** – contact Microbiologist
- Check for previous microbiology results

**Take appropriate samples**

- Cough swabs
- Sputum if possible
- Blood culture in severe pneumonia

INFECTION	USUAL ORGANISMS	ANTIMICROBIALS	COMMENTS
<b>Severe or complicated Pneumonia</b> See severity assessment	As for uncomplicated pneumonia plus Staphylococcus aureus  Group A streptococci	<b>Cefuroxime i/v</b> plus <b>Clarithromycin i/v</b>  Review the need for Clarithromycin after 48 hours	Send blood cultures and sputum  Send viral and atypical serology  <b>P</b> Penicillin allergy <i>Life threatening:</i> discuss with Microbiologist  If inadequate response discuss with Microbiologist  Change to oral antibiotics depending on the microbiology results & satisfactory clinical response  <b>Co-amoxiclav oral</b> with or without clarithromycin oral or <b>P</b> If penicillin allergy <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 1 month to 6 months</li> </ul> <b>Clarithromycin oral for 7 days</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Over 6 months</li> </ul> <b>Azithromycin oral for 3 days</b>  Consider longer course if severe infection

**Azithromycin oral**  
10mg/kg (max 500 mg) od

or

Body weight	Dose
15-25 kg	200 mg od
26-35 kg	300 mg od
36-45 kg	400 mg od
Over 45 kg	500 mg od

**Cefuroxime i/v**

Age	Dose
1 month - 18 years	20 mg/kg (max 750 mg) every 8 hours, increase to 50-60 mg/kg (max 1.5 g) every 6-8 hours in severe infections

**Clarithromycin i/v**

Age	Dose
1 month - 12 years	7.5 mg/kg bd
12-18 years	500 mg bd

**Clarithromycin oral**

Age 1 month - 12 years	
Body weight	Dose
Less than 8 kg	7.5 mg/kg bd
8-11 kg	62.5 mg bd
12-19 kg	125 mg bd
20-29 kg	187.5 mg bd
30-40 kg	250 mg bd
Age	Dose
12-18 years	500 mg bd

**Co-amoxiclav oral**

Age	Dose
1 month-year	125/31 susp 0.5 mL/ kg tds
1 - 6 years	250/62 susp 5 mL tds
6 - 12 years	250/62 susp 10 mL tds
12 - 18 years	500/125 tablets 1 tablet tds

## RESPIRATORY TRACT INFECTIONS - Community acquired infections [13]

### IMPORTANT Before prescribing antimicrobials

- History of MRSA or *Clostridium difficile* – contact Microbiologist
- Check for previous microbiology results

#### Take appropriate samples

- Cough swabs
- Sputum if possible
- Blood culture in severe pneumonia

INFECTION	USUAL ORGANISMS	ANTIMICROBIALS	COMMENTS
<b>Primary Atypical Pneumonia</b>	Mycoplasma pneumoniae  Chlamydia pneumoniae	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 1 month to 6 months <b>Clarithromycin oral for 7 -14 days</b></li> <li>• Over 6 months <b>Azithromycin oral for 3 days</b></li> </ul>	<p>Take appropriate samples, including samples for serology</p> <p>In case of complications or no response contact Microbiologist</p> <p>Seek advice from Infection Control Team</p>
<b>Post influenza suspected bacterial pneumonia</b>	Staphylococcus aureus  Streptococcus pneumoniae  Haemophilus influenzae  Group A Streptococci	<p><b>If severe infection</b> <b>Cefuroxime i/v</b></p> <p><b>If not severe</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Less than 12 years <b>Co-amoxiclav oral for 7 days</b></li> <li>• Over 12 years <b>Doxycycline oral for 7 days</b></li> </ul>	<p><b>P</b> Penicillin allergy: <b>Severe infection</b> Life threatening allergy Discuss with microbiologist</p> <p><b>If not severe</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 1 month to 6 months <b>Clarithromycin oral for 7 days</b></li> <li>• Over 6 months <b>Azithromycin oral for 3 days</b></li> </ul> <p>Review empirical treatment in the light of microbiology results</p>

#### Azithromycin oral

10mg/kg (max 500 mg) od

or

Body weight	Dose
15-25 kg	200 mg od
26-35 kg	300 mg od
36-45 kg	400 mg od
Over 45 kg	500 mg od

#### Cefuroxime i/v

Age	Dose
1 month - 18 years	20 mg/kg (max 750 mg) every 8 hours, increase to 50-60 mg/kg (max 1.5 g) every 6-8 hours in severe infections

#### Clarithromycin i/v

Age	Dose
1 month - 12 years	7.5 mg/kg bd
12-18 years	500 mg bd

#### Clarithromycin oral

Age 1 month - 12 years	
Body weight	Dose
under 8 kg	7.5mg/kg bd
8-11 kg	62.5 mg bd
12-19 kg	125 mg bd
20-29 kg	187.5 mg bd
30-40 kg	250 mg bd

Age	Dose
12-18 years	500 mg bd

#### Co-amoxiclav i/v

Age	Dose
1 month - 3 months	30 mg/kg every 12 hours
3 months - 18 years	30 mg/kg (max 1.2g) every 8 hours

#### Co-amoxiclav oral

Age	Dose
1 month - 1 year	125/31susp 0.5 mL/ kg tds
1 - 6 years	250/62 susp 5 mL tds
6 - 12 years	250/62 susp 10 mL tds
12 - 18 years	500/125 tablets 1 tablet tds

#### Doxycycline oral

Age	Dose
12-18 years	200 mg first dose then 100 mg od

## RESPIRATORY TRACT INFECTIONS - Community acquired infections [13]

INFECTION	USUAL ORGANISMS	ANTIMICROBIALS	COMMENTS
Pneumonia	Confirmed Streptococcus pneumoniae	<b>Benzylpenicillin i/v</b> or <b>Amoxicillin oral</b>  Total duration 7 days	<p><b>P</b> Penicillin allergy: <b>Clarithromycin i/v</b></p> <p>Changing when tolerating oral to</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 1 month to 6 months <b>Clarithromycin oral</b></li> <li>• Over 6 months <b>Azithromycin oral</b></li> </ul> <p>Total duration 7 days</p>
	Confirmed Staphylococcus aureus	<b>Flucloxacillin i/v</b>  In complicated cases consider adding <b>Clindamycin i/v</b>  Total duration 2-3 weeks	<p>Consider changing to <b>Flucloxacillin oral</b></p> <p><b>P</b> Penicillin allergy: <b>Clarithromycin i/v</b></p> <p>Changing when tolerating oral to</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 1 month to 6 months <b>Clarithromycin oral</b></li> <li>• Over 6 months <b>Azithromycin oral</b></li> </ul> <p>Discuss alternative choice of antibiotics with microbiologist</p>
	Confirmed MRSA	<b>Teicoplanin i/v</b> plus <b>Rifampicin oral</b>  Total duration 2-3 weeks	<b>Rifampicin</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• NEVER USE ON ITS OWN</li> <li>• Seek Microbiologists advice if oral not possible</li> <li>• Monitor LFTs</li> <li>• Reduce dose in liver impairment</li> </ul>
'Whooping cough'	<i>Pertussis bordella</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 1 month to 6 months <b>Clarithromycin oral for 10 days</b></li> <li>• Over 6 months <b>Azithromycin oral for 5 days</b></li> </ul>	<p>Take pernasal swabs</p> <p>FBC and serology for pertussis</p> <p>Notify Public Health and Infection Control Team</p> <p><b>Prophylaxis may be required for close family (advice from Public Health)</b></p>

**Amoxicillin oral**

Age	Dose
1 month - 1 year	125 mg tds
1-5 years	250 mg tds
5-18 years	500 mg tds

**Azithromycin oral**

10mg/kg (max 500 mg) od  
or

Body weight	Dose
15-25 kg	200 mg od
26-35 kg	300 mg od
36-45 kg	400 mg od
Over 45 kg	500 mg od

**Benzylpenicillin i/v**

Age	Dose
1 month - 18 years	25 mg/kg every 4-6 hours increasing to 50 mg/kg every 4-6 hours (max 2.4g every 4 hours in severe infection)

**Clarithromycin i/v**

Age	Dose
1 month - 12 years	7.5 mg/kg bd
12-18 years	500 mg bd

**Clarithromycin oral**

Age 1 month - 12 years	
Body weight	Dose
under 8 kg	7.5 mg/kg bd
8-11 kg	62.5 mg bd
12-19 kg	125 mg bd
20-29 kg	187.5 mg bd
30-40 kg	250 mg bd
Age	Dose
12-18 years	500 mg bd

**Clindamycin i/v**

Age	Dose
1 month - 12 years	3.75 – 6.25 mg/kg every 6 hours increasing to 10 mg/kg every 6 hours
12 - 18 years	150 - 675 mg every 6 hours increasing to 1.2 g every 6 hours

**Co-amoxiclav i/v**

Age	Dose
1 month - 3 months	30 mg/kg every 12 hours
3 months - 18 years	30 mg/kg (max 1.2 g) every 8 hours

**Co-amoxiclav oral**

Age	Dose
1 month - 1 year	125/31susp 0.5 mL/ kg tds
1 - 6 years	250/62 susp 5 mL tds
6 – 12 years	250/62 susp 10 mL tds
12 – 18 years	500/125 tablets 1 tablet tds

**Flucloxacillin i/v**

Age	Dose
1 month - 18 years	25 mg/kg (max 1g) every 6 hours

**Flucloxacillin oral**

Age	Dose
1 month - 2 years	125 mg qds
2 - 10 years	250 mg qds
10 – 18 years	500 mg qds

**Rifampicin oral**

Age	Dose
1 month - 18 years	10 mg/kg (max 600 mg) every 12 hours

**Teicoplanin i/v**

Age	Dose
1 month - 18 years	10 mg/kg (max 400 mg) every 12 hours for 3 doses then 6 mg/kg (max 400 mg) od

## RESPIRATORY TRACT INFECTIONS - Hospital - acquired pneumonia

**IMPORTANT Before prescribing antimicrobials**

- **History of MRSA** – Contact Microbiologist
- Check for previous microbiology results

**Take appropriate samples**

- Cough swabs
- Sputum if possible
- Blood cultures

INFECTION	USUAL ORGANISMS	ANTIMICROBIALS	COMMENTS
<b>Hospital Acquired Pneumonia</b>	Wide range of organisms including MRSA <i>Pseudomonas spp.</i>	Seek advice from Consultant Microbiologist	Review in the light of cultures & sensitivities

INFECTION	USUAL ORGANISMS	ANTIMICROBIALS	COMMENTS
<b>Aspiration Pneumonia</b>	Wide range of organisms including anaerobes	If no previous use of antibiotics then <b>Co-amoxiclav i/v</b> plus <b>Metronidazole i/v</b>	Review in the light of cultures  Change to <b>Co-amoxiclav oral</b>  Total duration 5 days  ⚠ Penicillin allergy: seek advice from Microbiologist

**Co-amoxiclav i/v**

Age	Dose
1 month - 3 months	30 mg/kg every 12 hours
3 months - 18 years	30 mg/kg (max 1.2 g) every 8 hours

**Co-amoxiclav oral**

Age	Dose
1 month - 1 year	125/31 susp 0.5 mL/ kg tds
1 - 6 years	250/62 susp 5 mL tds
6 – 12 years	250/62 susp 10 mL tds
12 – 18 years	500/125 tablets 1 tablet tds

**Metronidazole i/v**

Age	Dose
1 month - 2 months	7.5 mg/kg every 12 hours
2 month - 18 years	7.5 mg/kg (max 500 mg) every 8 hours

## RESPIRATORY TRACT INFECTIONS - Mycobacterial infections

IMPORTANT Before prescribing antimicrobials			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>History of MRSA</b> – Contact Microbiologist</li> <li>• Check for previous microbiology results</li> </ul>		<b>Take appropriate samples</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cough swabs</li> <li>• Sputum if possible</li> <li>• Blood cultures</li> </ul>	
INFECTION	USUAL ORGANISMS	ANTIMICROBIALS	COMMENTS
<b>Tuberculosis</b>	<i>Mycobacterium tuberculosis</i>  <i>Mycobacterium bovis</i>  <i>Mycobacterium africanum</i>	Discuss with Microbiologist and Paediatrician with specialist interest in infectious diseases	Please refer to NICE guidance and TB policy.  <b>Infection control risk –</b> Inform Infection Control Team <b>for appropriate isolation and infection control precautions</b>  Notify Public Health Doctor
<b>Atypical Mycobacterial Infection</b>	<i>Mycobacterium avium intracellulare</i>  <i>Mycobacterium kansasii</i>  <i>Mycobacterium malmoense etc.</i>	Consult Microbiology for susceptibility details	Seek advice from Consultant Microbiologist and Paediatrician with specialist interest in infectious diseases  No need for isolation or notification of infection
<b>Cystic fibrosis</b>		See Intranet	Refer to local cystic fibrosis guidelines and take advice from Paediatrician



## URINARY TRACT INFECTION IN CHILDREN [15]

- NICE Guidance has been adopted and modified for local use. Please use the summary algorithm (page 18)
- Refer to NICE website to access the full documents for more information.

### A. Urine Sample Collection and Handling and Interpretation

- 1 Septic infants – do ‘triple tap’, ie supra-pubic aspiration (1 attempt) as the first method of urine collection. Ultrasound guidance is routinely not available to us. Remember to specify SPA as collection method on laboratory request, it matters for interpretation.
- 2 For less ill children - clean catch sampling is next best method, try for 30 minutes; if this fails then:  
Urine collection pad;nurse who collects the sample must specify on the laboratory request form the sample method.
- 3 All urine samples for suspected UTI should be ward dip tested for nitrites, blood and leukocytes; if nitrite and leukocyte positive – start treatment empirically;
- 4 In the laboratory urine ‘microscopy’ is initially done by flow cytometry; this is extremely sensitive to the extent that reported ‘bacteriuria’ has a very high false positive rate for UTIC.
- 5 Over 3 years of age – negative nitrites and leukocytes on dip is usually enough to exclude UTI, unless symptoms are very suggestive of UTI.

### B. Treatment

THE TREATMENT SHOULD BE ACCORDING TO THE RISK OF SERIOUS ILLNESS:	
High risk of serious illness and/or children younger than 3 months with suspicion of UTI	Intravenous antibiotics <b>Cefotaxime i/v</b> or <b>Amoxicillin i/v plus Gentamicin</b>
Acute pyelonephritis / upper urinary tract infection	<b>Co-amoxiclav oral</b> or <b>Cephalexin oral</b> (if oral antibiotics cannot be used, consider i/v antibiotics) Duration 10 days
Cystitis / lower urinary tract infection	<b>Co-amoxiclav oral</b> or <b>Cephalexin oral</b> Duration 3 days only Review if still unwell after 24 - 48 hours

### Prophylaxis

No routine prophylaxis after first UTI, except those children under 6 month with ‘atypical’ or ‘recurrent UTI’, who, by NICE guidance, will have MCUG.  
Trimethoprim is first choice prophylaxis.

### C. Imaging

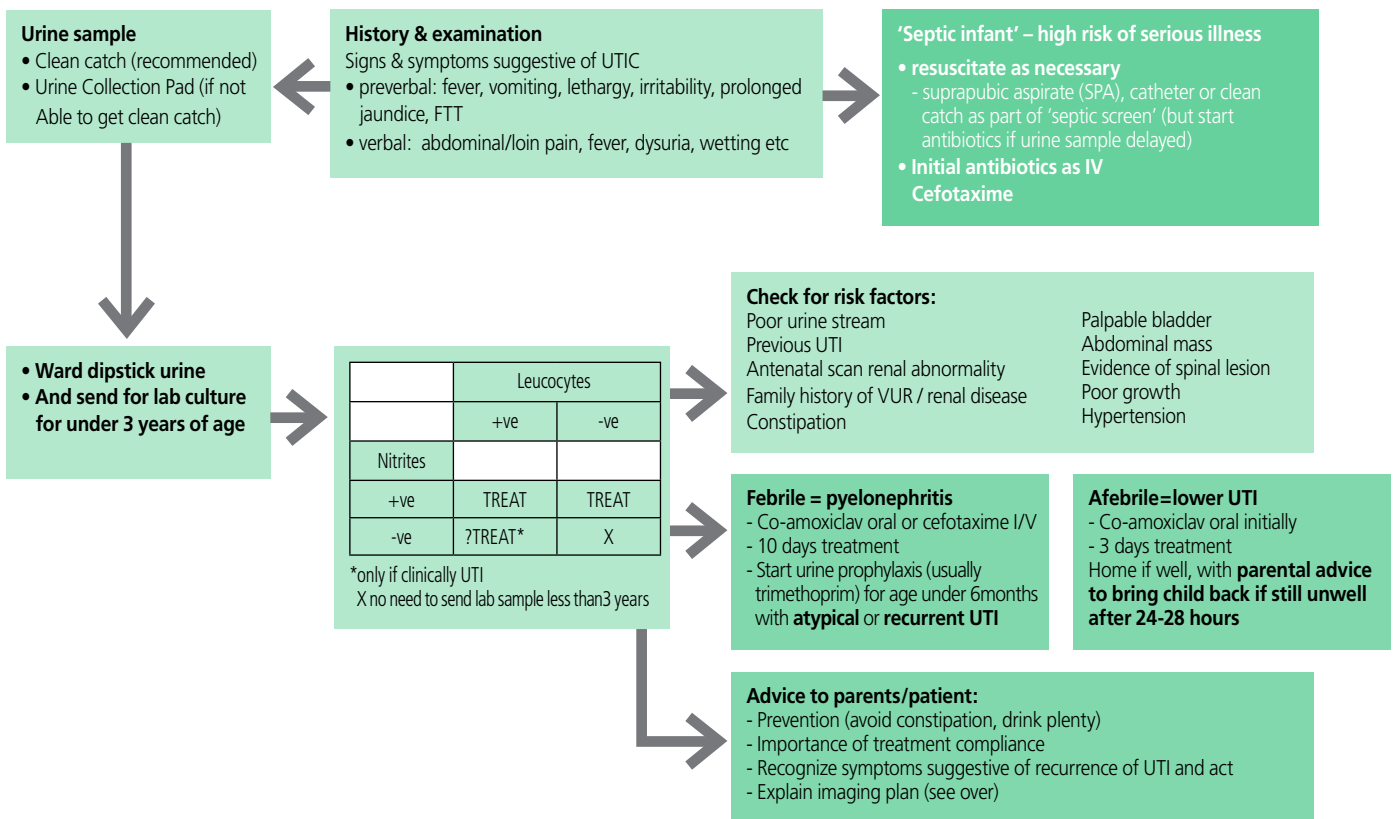
As per NICE algorithm.

Note stratification by age (under 6 months, 6 months-3 year and over 3 years) AND the categories ‘atypical’ and ‘recurrent’ UTI.

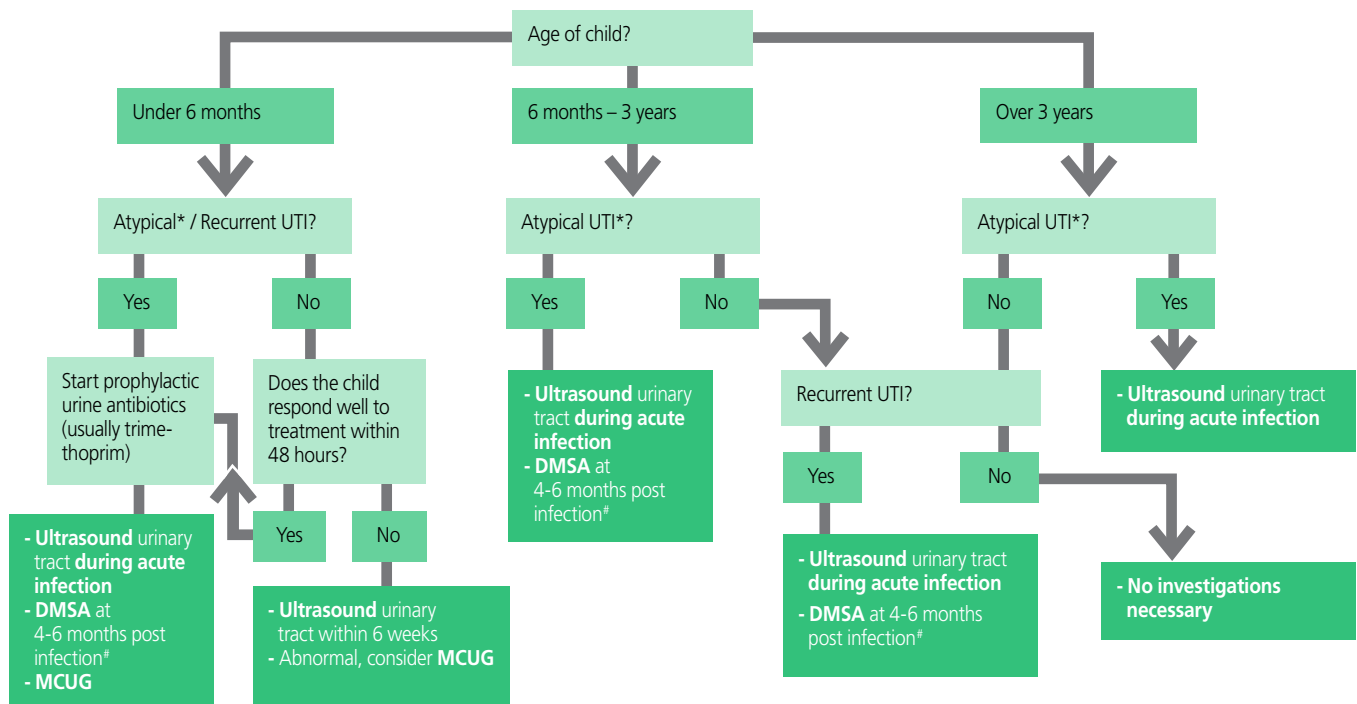
Keywords:

UTI, Urinary tract infection, NICE, ‘recurrent’ UTI.

## ASSESSMENT, DIAGNOSIS AND INITIAL MANAGEMENT OF UTI IN CHILDREN



## IMAGING SCHEDULE AFTER UTI IN CHILDREN



**Atypical UTI** – seriously ill / septic, poor urine stream, kidney / bladder mass, raised s. creatinine, failure to respond to treatment within 48 hours, Non-E.coli infection (this includes 'coliforms')

**Recurrent UTI** - > 2 Pyelonephritis, pyelonephritis + > 1 lower UTI, > 3 lower UTIs

\* If infant / child with non-E.coli UTI responds well to antibiotics and has no other features of atypical infection, USS can be done non-urgent (within 6 weeks)

<sup>†</sup> If child has subsequent UTI whilst awaiting DMSA, timing of DMSA should be reviewed and consideration given to doing it sooner

**MCUG**, though not done routinely, may be considered in children with calyceal/ureteric dilatation, poor urine flow, non-E.coli UTI (esp. 6 months – 3 years), FHx of VUR

## SEPTICAEMIA [16]

- It is important to establish the primary source of septicaemia in order to shed light on the most probable organisms and the underlying pathology.
- Blood culture should be taken BEFORE commencing antimicrobial therapy.
- **Start antibiotics immediately. Prescribe in STAT section of drug chart.**

### IMPORTANT Before prescribing antimicrobials

- **History of MRSA or *C.difficile*** – contact Microbiologist
- Check for previous microbiology results

**Take appropriate samples**  
(If possible, clinical condition permitting)

- Blood cultures
- Urine
- Sputum

### IMPORTANT THERAPEUTIC MONITORING

#### Gentamicin and vancomycin

- Renal impairment- discuss with microbiologist
- Monitor blood levels
- Monitor renal function three times a week
- Review treatment every 3 days

Inform patient or carer of potential side effects (hearing balance and renal impairment)

Discuss with microbiologist before continuing for longer than 7 days

## COMMUNITY - Acquired Septicaemia

INFECTION	USUAL ORGANISMS	ANTIMICROBIALS	COMMENTS
<b>Sepsis</b>  <b>Source unknown</b>	Streptococci sp  Pneumococci  Staphylococcus aureus  Gram negative organisms  Meningococci	<b>Cefotaxime i/v</b>  When clinical condition stable, consider changing to <b>Ceftriaxone i/v</b>	Take appropriate samples  <b>P</b> Penicillin allergy: Mild Give Cefotaxime  Anaphylaxis: Teicoplanin plus Gentamicin  Seek advice from Microbiologist  Review treatment in the light of cultures and clinical response  UTI is the commonest cause  Duration 5-7 days  If meningitis suspected see meningitis guidelines (page 18)
<b>Intravascular catheter associated infection</b>	Coagulase negative staphylococci  Staphylococcus aureus	<b>Teicoplanin i/v</b> plus <b>Gentamicin i/v</b>	Remove the i/v line  Take blood cultures from peripheral line  Send catheter tip to the microbiology department

## HOSPITAL - Acquired Septicaemia

INFECTION	USUAL ORGANISMS	ANTIMICROBIALS	COMMENTS
<b>Source unknown</b>	Wide range of hospital organisms		Contact Microbiologist

### Cefotaxime i/v

Age	Dose
1 month - 18 years	50 mg/kg every 6 hours Max 12 g daily

### Ceftriaxone i/v

Infusion over 30 minutes

Age	Dose
1 month - 12 years	Under 50 kg 80mg/ kg od  Over 50 kg 2-4 g daily
12 - 18 years	2 -4 g daily

### Gentamicin i/v

Age	Dose
1 month - 12 years	2.5 mg/kg every 8 hours
12 – 18 years	2mg/kg every 8 hours

### Teicoplanin i/v

Age	Dose
1 month - 18 years	10 mg/kg (max 400 mg) every 12 hours for 3 doses then 6 mg/kg (max 400 mg) od

## ENDOCARDITIS - Empirical (organism not known) [17]

- Always discuss treatment with Consultant Paediatric Cardiologist at Leeds General Infirmary and local Microbiologist.
- Discuss need for immediate antibiotics with paediatric cardiologist, particularly if child appears septic.

### IMPORTANT Before prescribing antimicrobials

- **History of MRSA** – Contact Microbiologist
- Check for previous microbiology results
- Treatment duration depends on the organism and patient factors.

#### Take appropriate samples

THREE sets of blood cultures from different sites and at different times PRIOR to antimicrobial therapy if clinical condition allows.

### IMPORTANT Therapeutic

#### Gentamicin and vancomycin

- Renal impairment - discuss with microbiologist
- Monitor blood levels
- Monitor renal function three times a week
- Review treatment every 3 days

Inform patient or carer of potential side effects (hearing balance and renal impairment)

Discuss with microbiologist before continuing for longer than 2 weeks

INFECTION	USUAL ORGANISMS	ANTIMICROBIALS	COMMENTS
Acute presentation	Empirical	Flucloxacillin i/v plus Gentamicin i/v plus Vancomycin i/v	<b>P</b> Penicillin allergy: Contact Consultant Microbiologist
Subacute presentation	Empirical	Benzylpenicillin i/v plus Gentamicin i/v	Gentamicin levels: Pre dose (trough): <1mg/L 1 hour Post dose (peak): 3 – 5 mg/L (i.e. not the usual therapeutic levels).
<b>P</b> Penicillin allergy or Intra-cardiac prosthesis (Patches, conduits, pacing wires) or Suspected MRSA	Empirical	Vancomycin i/v plus Rifampicin oral plus Gentamicin i/v	Vancomycin levels: Only predose level required  Pre dose (trough): 15 – 20 mg/L

#### Benzylpenicillin i/v

Age	Dose
1 month - 18 years	25 mg/kg every 4 hours increase if necessary to 50 mg/kg (max 2.4 g) every 4 hours

#### Flucloxacillin i/v

Age	Dose
1 month - 18 years	50 mg/kg (max 2 g) every 6 hours

#### Gentamicin i/v

Age	Dose
1 month - 18 years	2.5mg/kg every 12 hours

#### Rifampicin oral

Age	Dose
1 month - 12 years	10mg/kg (max 600mg) every 12 hours

#### Vancomycin i/v

15 mg/kg every 8 hours  
Maximum 2 g in 24 hours

## CENTRAL NERVOUS SYSTEM INFECTIONS - Bacterial Meningitis [18]

IMPORTANT Before prescribing antimicrobials	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>History of MRSA</b> – contact Microbiologist</li> <li>• Check for previous microbiology results</li> <li>• <b>Avoid ceftriaxone for the first 48 hours if child likely to require calcium containing infusion or admission to HDU or PICU</b></li> </ul>	<b>Take appropriate samples</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Blood cultures</li> <li>• CSF for PCR, microscopy, protein, glucose</li> <li>• Plasma glucose (to compare CSF)</li> <li>• Throat swabs (bacteriology plus virology)</li> <li>• EDTA blood for PCR (meningococcal, pneumococcus, enterovirus, herpes)</li> <li>• Stool for enteroviruses</li> </ul>

INFECTION	USUAL ORGANISMS	ANTIMICROBIALS	COMMENTS						
Bacterial meningitis	<i>Neisseria meningitidis</i>  <i>Streptococcus pneumoniae</i>  <i>Haemophilus influenzae type b</i>	Initially: <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Age</th> <th>Antimicrobial</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Less than 3 months</td> <td><b>Cefotaxime i/v</b> plus <b>Amoxicillin i/v</b></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Older than 3 months</td> <td><b>Ceftriaxone i/v</b></td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p><b>Rationalise antimicrobials in the light of culture and sensitivities (See Page 24)</b></p>	Age	Antimicrobial	Less than 3 months	<b>Cefotaxime i/v</b> plus <b>Amoxicillin i/v</b>	Older than 3 months	<b>Ceftriaxone i/v</b>	<p><b>Medical emergency</b> Start antibiotics immediately, then inform CCDC for prophylaxis of close contacts in case of meningococcal infection</p> <p>Inform Hospital Infection Control Team</p> <p><b>Remember to consider</b> dexamethasone i/v - ideally before or as soon as possible after the first dose of antibiotic</p> <p><b>P</b> Penicillin allergy: discuss with Consultant Microbiologist</p> <p>If not treated with ceftriaxone, eradication of throat carriage of H influenzae and meningococcal may be necessary (see page 47)</p> <p>*Please advise patients and carers on avoiding risk in the future **Gentamicin levels: Pre dose (trough): &lt; 2 mg/L 1 hour Post dose (peak): 5 – 10 mg/L</p>
	Age	Antimicrobial							
Less than 3 months	<b>Cefotaxime i/v</b> plus <b>Amoxicillin i/v</b>								
Older than 3 months	<b>Ceftriaxone i/v</b>								
	All other organisms including <i>Mycobacterium tuberculosis</i>		Discuss with Consultant Microbiologist						

Amoxicillin i/v		Cefotaxime i/v		Ceftriaxone i/v Infusion over 30 minutes		**Gentamicin i/v	
Age	Dose	Age	Dose	Age	Dose	Age	Dose
1 month - 18 years	50 mg/kg every 4-6 hours (max. 2 g every 4 hours)	1 month - 18 years	50 mg/kg every 6 hours (max 12 g daily)	1 month - 12 years	Under 50 kg 80mg/ kg od  Over 50 kg 2-4 g daily	1 month - 12 years	2.5 mg/kg every 8 hours
				12 - 18 years	2 -4 g daily	12 – 18 years	2mg/kg every 8 hours

## CENTRAL NERVOUS SYSTEM INFECTIONS - Bacterial meningitis [18]

Rationalise antimicrobials as below:

	Duration of therapy	
	Age less than 3 months	Age 3 months or older
<b>Confirmed disease</b> Positive blood/CSF culture and/or blood CSF PCR	<i>Group B streptococcus</i> <b>Cefotaxime i/v</b> at least 14 days	<i>H influenzae</i> <b>Ceftriaxone i/v</b> Total 7 days
	<i>L monocytogenes</i> <b>Amoxicillin i/v</b> at least 21 days plus <b>Gentamicin i/v</b> for at least 7 days	<i>S pneumoniae</i> <b>Ceftriaxone i/v</b> Total 14 days
	Gram negative bacilli <b>Cefotaxime i/v</b> at least 21 days	Meningococcal <b>Ceftriaxone i/v</b> Total 7 days total
	Meningococcal <b>Ceftriaxone i/v</b> Total 7 days	
<b>Unconfirmed disease (with strong suspicion in the absence of microbiological confirmation)</b> Failed lumbar puncture or Negative blood/CSF culture and/or blood / CSF PCR	<b>Cefotaxime i/v</b> for at least 14 days plus <b>Amoxicillin i/v</b> for at least 14 days	<b>Ceftriaxone i/v</b> for at least 10 days

Amoxicillin i/v		Cefotaxime i/v		Ceftriaxone i/v		**Gentamicin i/v	
<i>Age</i>	<i>Dose</i>	<i>Age</i>	<i>Dose</i>	Infusion over 30 minutes		<i>Age</i>	<i>Dose</i>
1 month - 18 years	50 mg/kg every 4 - 6 hours (max 2 g every 4 hours)	1 month - 18 years	50 mg/kg every 6 hours (max 12 g daily)	1 month - 12 years	Under 50 kg 80mg/ kg od	1 month - 12 years	2.5 mg/kg every 8 hours
					Over 50 kg 2-4 g daily	12 - 18 years	2mg/kg every 8 hours
				12 - 18 years	2 -4 g daily		

CENTRAL NERVOUS SYSTEM INFECTIONS *continued* [9]

IMPORTANT Before prescribing antimicrobials	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>History of MRSA</b> – contact Microbiologist</li> <li>• Check for previous microbiology results</li> <li>• <b>Avoid ceftriaxone for the first 48 hours if child likely to require calcium containing infusion or admission to HDU or PICU</b></li> </ul>	<p><b>Take appropriate samples</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Blood cultures</li> <li>• CSF for PCR, microscopy, protein, glucose</li> <li>• Plasma glucose (to compare CSF)</li> <li>• Throat swabs (bacteriology plus virology)</li> <li>• EDTA blood for PCR (meningococcal, pneumococcus, enterovirus, herpes)</li> <li>• Stool for enteroviruses</li> </ul>

INFECTION	USUAL ORGANISMS	ANTIMICROBIALS	COMMENTS
<b>Viral meningitis</b>	<i>Enteroviruses</i>  Consider Herpes simplex virus if severe infection	Antiviral not available  Stop antivirals if PCR negative	Take stool samples and throat swabs  Seek advice from Consultant Microbiologist  PCR will confirm presence of enteroviruses and other viruses
<b>Encephalitis</b>  Suspected	Commonest agent Herpes simplex virus (HSV) Mycoplasma  Other infective agents include: Varicella zoster (VZV) Cytomegalovirus (CMV) Toxoplasma and fungi	<b>Aciclovir i/v</b>  Total duration 21 days If Herpes confirmed  Add if Mycoplasma suspected <b>Clarithromycin i/v</b>  Duration: if Mycoplasma confirmed 14 days	Discuss with Consultant Microbiologist  PCR on the CSF will confirm HSV infection  Blood for specific serology mycoplasma including G-PAT  Review treatment in the light of microbiology results
<b>Brain abscess</b>	Depends on source of abscess	Start with <b>Cefotaxime i/v</b> plus <b>Metronidazole i/v</b>	Discuss treatment & management with Microbiologist and Paediatric Neurosurgeon  Treatment modified according to the nature of organism & clinical manifestation

**Aciclovir i/v**

- Adjust dose in renal impairment
- Dose based on ideal weight for height
- Infuse over 60 minutes

Age	Dose
1 month to 3 months	20 mg/kg every 8 hours
3 months to 12 years	500 mg/m <sup>2</sup> every 8 hours
12 – 18 years	10 mg/kg every 8 hours

**Cefotaxime i/v**

Age	Dose
1 month - 18 years	50 mg/kg every 6 hours Max 12 g daily

**Clarithromycin i/v**

Age	Dose
1 month - 12 years	7.5 mg/kg every 12 hours
12-18 years	500 mg every 12 hours

**Metronidazole i/v**

Age	Dose
1 month - 2 months	7.5 mg/kg every 12 hours
2 month - 18 years	7.5 mg/kg (max 500 mg) every 8 hours



## SKIN AND SOFT TISSUE INFECTIONS - Bacterial [7]

**IMPORTANT Before prescribing antimicrobials**

- **History of MRSA** – contact Microbiologist
- Check for previous microbiology results

**Take appropriate samples**

- Pus and aspirate when available
- Wound swabs
- Blood cultures

INFECTION	USUAL ORGANISMS	ANTIMICROBIALS	COMMENTS
<b>Impetigo:</b>	<b>MILD</b>	Local therapy may suffice <b>Hydrogen peroxide (Crystacide)</b>  or  <b>Polyfax ointment</b> Apply bd  If systemic antibiotics required <b>Flucloxacillin oral</b>	Follow infection control procedures  <b>P</b> Penicillin allergy • 1 month to 6 months <b>Clarithromycin oral</b> • Over 6 months <b>Azithromycin oral for 3 days</b>  If i/v needed, <b>Clarithromycin i/v</b>
	<b>SEVERE</b>	<b>Benzylpenicillin i/v</b> plus <b>Flucloxacillin i/v</b>	Consider oral only after satisfactory response  <b>Amoxicillin oral</b> plus <b>Flucloxacillin oral</b>  <b>P</b> Penicillin allergy <b>Clarithromycin i/v</b> Changing to oral after satisfactory response  Total duration 5 –10 days, depending on response

**Azithromycin oral**

10 mg/kg (max 500 mg) od

or

Body weight	Dose
15-25 kg	200 mg od
26-35 kg	300 mg od
36-45 kg	400 mg od
Over 45 kg	500 mg od

**Benzylpenicillin i/v**

Age	Dose
1 month – 18 years	25 mg/kg every 6 hours Increasing to 50 mg/kg (max 2.4 g) every 4 hours

**Clarithromycin oral**

Age 1 month - 12 years	
Body weight	Dose
Less than 8 kg	7.5 mg/kg bd
8 – 11 kg	62.5 mg bd
12 – 19 kg	125 mg bd
20 – 29 kg	187.5 mg bd
30 - 40 kg	250 mg bd
Age	Dose
12-18 years	500 mg bd

**Clarithromycin i/v**

Age	Dose
1 month - 12 years	7.5 mg/kg every 12 hours
12-18 years	500 mg every 12 hours

**Flucloxacillin i/v**

Age	Dose
1 month - 18 years	25 mg/kg (max 1 g) every 6 hours Increasing to 50 mg/kg (max 2 g) every 6 hours

**Flucloxacillin oral**

Age	Dose
1 month - 2 years	125 mg qds
2 - 10 years	250 mg qds
10 – 18 years	500 mg qds

## SKIN AND SOFT TISSUE INFECTIONS - Bacterial [7]

### IMPORTANT Before prescribing antimicrobials

- **History of MRSA or C.difficile** – contact Microbiologist
- Check for previous microbiology results
- Treatment duration (iv plus oral) 5 days unless specified

#### Take appropriate samples

- Pus and aspirate when available
- Wound swabs
- Blood cultures

INFECTION	USUAL ORGANISMS	ANTIMICROBIALS	COMMENTS
Erysipelas	<i>Group A, C, G Streptococci</i>	<b>Benzylpenicillin i/v</b> or For less severe infection <b>Amoxicillin oral</b> Total duration 5 – 10 days, depending on severity	Consider oral Amoxicillin following adequate clinical response <b>P</b> Penicillin allergy <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 1 month to 6 months  <b>Clarithromycin oral for 7 days</b></li> <li>• Over 6 months  <b>Azithromycin oral for 3 days</b></li> </ul> If i/v needed <b>Clarithromycin i/v</b>

#### Amoxicillin oral

Body weight	Dose
1 month -1 year	125 mg tds
1 - 5 years	250 mg tds
5 - 18 years	500 mg tds

#### Azithromycin oral

10mg/kg (max 500 mg) od

or

Body weight	Dose
15-25 kg	200 mg od
26-35 kg	300 mg od
36-45 kg	400 mg od
Over 45 kg	500 mg od

#### Benzylpenicillin i/v

Age	Dose
1 month -18 years	25 mg/kg every 4-6 hours Increasing to 50 mg/kg every 4 hours (max 2.4g) every 4 hours

#### Clarithromycin i/v

Age	Dose
1 month - 12 years	7.5 mg/kg bd
12 – 18 years	500mg bd

#### Clarithromycin oral

##### Age 1 month - 12 years

Body weight	Dose
less than 8 kg	7.5 mg/kg bd
8-11 kg	62.5 mg bd
12-19 kg	125 mg bd
20-29 kg	187.5 mg bd
30-40 kg	250 mg bd

Age	Dose
12-18 years	500 mg bd

## SKIN AND SOFT TISSUE INFECTIONS - Bacterial [7]

**IMPORTANT Before prescribing antimicrobials**

- **History of MRSA or C.difficile** – contact Microbiologist
- Check for previous microbiology results
- Treatment duration (iv plus oral) 5 days unless specified

**Take appropriate samples**

- Pus and aspirate when available
- Wound swabs
- Blood cultures

INFECTION		USUAL ORGANISMS	ANTIMICROBIALS	COMMENTS
Cellulitis:	<b>MILD</b>	<i>Staphylococcus aureus</i>	<b>Flucloxacillin oral</b> Duration 7 days	<p><b>P</b> Penicillin allergy</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 1 month to 6 months <b>Clarithromycin oral for 7 days</b></li> <li>• Over 6 months <b>Azithromycin oral for 3 days</b></li> </ul> <p>If i/v needed, <b>Clarithromycin i/v</b></p> <p><b>High dose i/v antimicrobials are necessary initially</b></p> <p>Consider oral only after satisfactory response <b>Amoxicillin oral</b> plus <b>Flucloxacillin oral</b></p> <p><b>P</b> Penicillin allergy: <b>Clarithromycin i/v</b></p>
	<b>SEVERE</b>	<i>Group A, C, G Streptococci</i>	<b>Benzylpenicillin i/v</b> plus <b>Flucloxacillin i/v</b>  Duration Some patients may need longer than 7 days (eg for Group A Streptococci 10 days)	

**Amoxicillin oral**

Age	Dose
1 month - 1 year	125 mg tds
1 - 5 years	250 mg tds
5 - 18 years	500 mg tds

**Azithromycin oral**

10 mg/kg (max 500 mg) od  
or

Body weight	Dose
15-25 kg	200 mg od
26-35 kg	300 mg od
36-45 kg	400 mg od
Over 45 kg	500 mg od

**Benzylpenicillin i/v**

Age	Dose
1 month - 18 years	25 mg/kg every 4-6 hours Increasing to 50 mg/kg every 4 hours (max 2.4g) every 4 hours

**Clarithromycin i/v**

1 month - 12 years	7.5 mg/kg every 12 hours
12-18 years	500 mg every 12 hours

**Clarithromycin oral**

<b>Age 1 month - 12 years</b>	
Body weight	Dose
Less than 8 kg	7.5 mg/kg bd
8 - 11 kg	62.5 mg bd
12 - 19 kg	125 mg bd
20 - 29 kg	187.5 mg bd
30 - 40 kg	250 mg bd
Age	Dose
12-18 years	500 mg bd

**Flucloxacillin i/v**

Age	Dose
1 month - 18 years	25 mg/kg (max 1 g) every 6 hours Increasing to 50 mg/kg (max 2 g) every 6 hours

**Flucloxacillin oral**

Age	Dose
1 month - 2 years	125 mg qds
2 - 10 years	250 mg qds
10 - 18 years	500 mg qds

## SKIN AND SOFT TISSUE INFECTIONS - Bacterial [7]

### IMPORTANT Before prescribing antimicrobials

- **History of MRSA or C.difficile** – contact Microbiologist
- Check for previous microbiology results

#### Take appropriate samples

- Pus and aspirate when available
- Wound swabs
- Blood cultures

INFECTION	USUAL ORGANISMS	ANTIMICROBIALS	COMMENTS
<b>Bites</b>  Animal and human  Antibiotic prophylaxis advised for: puncture wound, bite involving hand, foot, face, joint, tendon, ligament; immunocompromised, diabetics, asplenic patients	Anaerobes <i>Streptococcus sp</i>  <i>Pasteurella multocida</i>  Human mouth flora including HACEK organisms	Prophylaxis and treatment: <b>Co-amoxiclav oral</b>	Surgical toilet most important  Assess tetanus and rabies risk (Refer to Green Book)  <b>P</b> Penicillin allergy <b>Clindamycin oral</b> plus <b>Ciprofloxacin oral</b>  <b>Human bite</b> Assess HIV/hepatitis B & C risk  Refer to Blood Borne Virus Policy for appropriate prophylaxis

#### Ciprofloxacin oral

Age	Dose
1 month -18 years	10 mg/kg bd  Double dose in severe infections (max 750 mg bd)

#### Clindamycin oral

Age	Dose
1 month - 12 years	6 mg/kg (max 450 mg) qds
12 – 18 years	150 – 300 mg qds

#### Co-amoxiclav oral

Age	Dose
1 month -1 year	125/31susp 0.5 mL/ kg tds
1 - 6 years	250/62 susp 5 mL tds
6 - 12 years	250/62 susp 10 mL tds
12 - 18 years	500/125 mg tds

## SKIN AND SOFT TISSUE INFECTIONS - Wound infections

**IMPORTANT Before prescribing antimicrobials**

- **History of MRSA** – contact Microbiologist
- Check for previous microbiology results

**Take appropriate samples**

- Pus and aspirate when available
- Wound swabs
- Blood cultures

INFECTION	USUAL ORGANISMS	ANTIMICROBIALS	COMMENTS
<b>Surgical Site Infection</b> Following Clean Surgery	<i>Staphylococcus aureus</i>  <i>Streptococcus sp</i>   MRSA	<b>Flucloxacillin i/v</b> or <b>Flucloxacillin oral</b>  Total duration 5 days	Mild erythema or serous discharge may not require antimicrobials (Serous discharge is not an infection)  In severe cases seek advice from Consultant Microbiologist  <b>P</b> Penicillin allergy <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 1 month to 6 months  <b>Clarithromycin oral for 5 days</b></li> <li>• Over 6 months  <b>Azithromycin oral for 3 days</b></li> </ul> i/v needed, <b>Clarithromycin i/v</b>  Discuss with microbiologist
<b>Surgical Site Infection</b> Following Contaminated Surgery	<i>Staphylococcus aureus</i> MRSA  <i>Anaerobes</i>  <i>Coliforms</i> <i>Not usually a pathogen, only colonisation</i>	Seek advice from Microbiologist	The mainstay of treatment is surgical intervention  Not all isolates are significant

**Azithromycin oral**

10mg/kg (max 500 mg) od  
or

Body weight	Dose
15 - 25 kg	200 mg od
26 - 35 kg	300 mg od
36 - 45 kg	400 mg od
Over 45 kg	500 mg od

**Clarithromycin i/v**

Age	Dose
1 month - 12 years	7.5 mg/kg bd
12 - 18 years	500 mg bd

**Clarithromycin oral****Age 1 month - 12 years**

Body weight	Dose
Less than 8 kg	7.5 mg/kg bd
8 - 11 kg	62.5 mg bd
12 - 19 kg	125 mg bd
20 - 29 kg	187.5 mg bd
30 - 40 kg	250 mg bd

Age	Dose
12 - 18 years	500 mg bd

**Flucloxacillin i/v**

Age	Dose
1 month - 18 years	25 mg/kg every 6 hours (max 2 g every 6 hours)

**Flucloxacillin oral**

Age	Dose
1 month - 2 years	125 mg qds
2 - 10 years	250 mg qds
10 - 18 years	500 mg qds

## SKIN AND SOFT TISSUE INFECTIONS - Dermatophyte

IMPORTANT Before prescribing antimicrobials		Take appropriate samples	
Consult Dermatologists		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Skin scrapings</li> <li>• Nail clippings</li> <li>• Hair</li> </ul>	
INFECTION	USUAL ORGANISMS	ANTIMICROBIALS	COMMENTS
<b>Skin Infections in General</b>	<i>Trichophyton sp.</i> <i>Epidermophyton sp.</i> <i>Microsporum sp</i>	For localised infections <b>Miconazole cream 2%</b> Apply twice daily or <b>Clotrimazole cream 1%</b> Apply 2 - 3 times a day	Skin scrapings should be sent to Microbiology
<b>Scalp Ringworm and Extensive Tinea infections</b>	<i>As above</i>	If oral therapy appropriate due to site, severity or extent of infection <b>First line</b> <b>Terbinafine oral</b> Duration: Tinea capitis 4 weeks Tinea pedis 2-4 weeks Tinea corporis 4 weeks  If failed on first line <b>Itraconazole oral</b>	Discuss with dermatologist  Monitor LFTs monthly  Not licenced for use in children  Discontinue if signs of hepatitis develop
<b>Pityriasis versicolor</b>	<i>Malassezia furfur</i>	<b>Topical</b> <b>Selenium sulphide shampoo</b> (Selsun®) 5-18 years Dilute with water and apply to affected area. Leave for 10 minutes before rinsing off with water. Apply once daily for 7 days. Repeat course if necessary.	In children less than 5 years or in relapses seek advice from Dermatologist.  Commonly seen in children after contact with water (eg swimming)
<b>Nail Infections Onychomycosis</b>	<i>Trichophyton sp.</i> <i>Epidermophyton sp.</i>	<b>Terbinafine oral</b>  Duration: 6 weeks - 3 months  Up to six months may be needed for toe nail infection	Nail clippings should be sent to Microbiology  Monitor LFTs monthly  Efficacy to topical preparations is questionable

### Itraconazole oral

Tinea capitis

Age	Dose
1 month - 18 years	3-5 mg/kg (max 200 mg) od for 2-6 weeks

### Terbinafine oral

Adjust dose in renal impairment

Age over 1 year	
Body weight	Dose
10 - 20 kg	62.5 mg od
20 - 40 kg	125 mg od
Over 40 kg	250 mg od

### Itraconazole oral

Tinea pedis

Age	Dose
1 month - 12 years	3-5 mg/kg (max 100 mg) od for 30 days
12 - 18 years	100 mg od for 30 days or 200 mg bd for 7 days

### Itraconazole oral

Tinea corporis

Age	Dose
1 month - 12 years	3-5 mg/kg (max 100 mg) od for 15 days
12 - 18 years	100 mg od for 15 days or 200 mg bd for 7 days

## SKIN AND SOFT TISSUE INFECTIONS - Candida

INFECTION	USUAL ORGANISMS	ANTIMICROBIALS	COMMENTS
<b>Skin Candidiasis</b>	<i>Candida albicans</i> <i>Candida glabrata</i> <i>Candida kruzei</i> <i>Candida tropicalis</i> etc	<b>Topical</b> <b>Clotrimazole cream 1%</b> Apply bd or <b>Miconazole cream 2%</b> Apply bd  <b>Systemic</b> <b>Fluconazole oral</b> for 2-4 weeks (for up to 6 weeks in tinea pedia) Max duration 6 weeks	Duration of therapy will depend on the clinical condition  Consider oral treatment if no response to topical or recurrent infection or immunocompromised.  <i>Candida glabrata</i> Widespread infection -sensitivities may be required before considering systemic fluconazole  Non-albicans candida are more likely to be resistant
<b>Vulval/vaginal</b>		<b>Fluconazole oral</b> Single dose	

**Fluconazole oral**

Single dose

Age	Dose
Less than 16 yrs (post puberty)	150 mg od
16 - 18 years	150 mg od

**Fluconazole oral**

Age	Dose
1 month - 18 years	3 mg/kg od max 50mg

## SKIN AND SOFT TISSUE INFECTIONS - Viral

### Infection Prevention and Control guidance:

Isolate the patient using respiratory precautions (green sign). Inform the Infection Prevention and Control Team. Exposure to non-immune high risk contacts such as pregnant women and immunocompromised patients will be assessed and testing for immunity or provision of vaccine advice will be provided.

INFECTION	USUAL ORGANISMS	ANTIMICROBIALS	COMMENTS
<b>Herpes simplex</b> Mucocutaneous infections	<i>Herpes simplex virus</i>	<b>Aciclovir cream 5%</b> Apply to lesions at first sign of attack 5 times a day for 5 days  or <b>Aciclovir oral for 5 days</b>  If eczema herpeticum, consider <b>Aciclovir i/v STANDARD dose</b>  If immuno-compromised <b>*Aciclovir i/v HIGH dose</b>	
<b>Chickenpox</b> Complicated Chickenpox eg pneumonia and immunocompromised	<i>Varicella virus</i>	<b>Uncomplicated</b> No need for treatment  Complicated <b>Aciclovir i/v STANDARD dose</b>  if immunocompromised <b>Aciclovir i/v HIGH dose</b>	Consider appropriate antibiotic cover for secondary bacterial infections
<b>Shingles</b>	<i>Herpes-zoster virus</i>	<b>Uncomplicated</b> No need for treatment  Complicated <b>Aciclovir i/v STANDARD dose</b>  if immunocompromised <b>Aciclovir i/v HIGH dose</b> A course longer than 5 days may be necessary.	Consider appropriate antibiotic cover for secondary bacterial infections

### Aciclovir i/v STANDARD dose

- Adjust dose in renal impairment
- Dose based on ideal weight for height
- Infuse over 60 minutes

Age	Dose
1 - 3 months	20 mg/kg every 8 hours for 14 days
3 months - 12 years	250 mg/m <sup>2</sup> every 8 hours for at least 5 days
12 - 18 years	5 mg/kg every 8 hours for 5 days

### Aciclovir i/v HIGH dose

- Adjust dose in renal impairment
- Dose based on ideal weight for height
- Infuse over 60 minutes

Age	Dose
1 - 3 months With disseminated herpes	20 mg/kg every 8 hours for 14 days
3 months - 12 years	500 mg/m <sup>2</sup> every 8 hours for 5 days
12 - 18 years	10 mg/kg every 8 hours for 5 days

### Aciclovir oral for 5 days

Age	Dose
1 month - 2 years	100 mg five times daily
2 - 18 years	200 mg five times daily



## SKIN AND SOFT TISSUE INFECTIONS - Arthropod infestations

Observe infection control measures

INFECTION	USUAL ORGANISMS	ANTIMICROBIALS	COMMENTS
Scabies	<i>Sarcoptes scabiei</i>	<p>1ST CHOICE  <b>Permethrin 5% cream</b>            Apply over the whole body, neck down and wash off after 8 -12 hours.            Repeat after 7 days</p> <p>2ND CHOICE  <b>Malathion 0.5% liquid</b>            Apply over the whole body and wash off after 24 hours            Repeat after 7 days</p> <p>If less than 6 months under medical supervision</p>	<p>If in doubt consult with Dermatologists to confirm diagnosis</p> <p>Inform health visitor and school nurse</p> <p>Inform Infection Control Team            Infection Control procedures should be followed</p> <p>If evidence of cross infection (ie 2 cases or more) then all patients &amp; staff should be treated</p> <p>All members of the affected household should be treated, paying particular attention to the web of the fingers and toes and brushing under the ends of nails</p> <p>Advise washing bedding and clothing at 40 °C minimum</p> <p>Advise about hygiene</p>
Head Lice and Body louse	<i>Pediculus capitis</i>	<p><b>Use nit combs</b></p> <p>Apply conditioner and wet-comb every 3-4 days for 2 weeks</p> <p><b>If not responding</b>  <b>Malathion 0.5% liquid</b>            Apply to hair and wash off after 12 hours            Repeat after 7 days</p> <p>Apply conditioner and wet-comb every 3-4 days for 2 weeks after Completing treatment</p> <p>Age less than 6 months            Unlicensed use</p>	<p>Two applications 7 days apart to prevent lice emerging from eggs that survive the first application</p> <p>Advise about hygiene</p> <p>Advise washing bedding and clothing at 40 °C minimum</p>

## BONE AND JOINT INFECTIONS [7]

### IMPORTANT Before prescribing antibiotics

- **History of MRSA** - contact Microbiologist
- Check for previous microbiology results
- Treatment duration may be several weeks, according to the microbiology results

#### Take appropriate samples

- Blood cultures
- Other orthopaedic samples when available
- Wound swabs/other septic foci

INFECTION	USUAL ORGANISMS	ANTIMICROBIALS	COMMENTS
<b>OSTEOMYELITIS</b>	<i>Staphylococcus aureus</i>  <i>Streptococcus sp</i>  <i>Haemophilus influenzae</i>  Anaerobes  Gram-Negative organisms  Known MRSA	<b>Flucloxacillin i/v</b>  Add if less than 5 years <b>and</b> not immunised for <i>H influenzae</i> <b>Ceftriaxone i/v</b>  Discuss with Microbiologist  Discuss with Microbiologist	Blood culture and other relevant orthopaedic samples should be taken before initiation of therapy if possible  Review according to culture and sensitivities  i/v therapy for at least 1-2 weeks in the first instance, followed by oral therapy for a total of 4-6 weeks. Chronic infection may need up to 12 weeks or longer  If negative bacteriology: discuss with Microbiologist  <b>P</b> Penicillin allergy: Contact Microbiologist
<b>SEPTIC ARTHRITIS</b>	<i>Staphylococcus aureus</i>  <i>Beta haemolytic Streptococci</i>	<b>Flucloxacillin i/v</b>  Add if less than 5 years <b>and</b> not immunised for <i>H influenzae</i> <b>Ceftriaxone i/v</b>	Take appropriate sample: - aspirate joint for culture and sensitivities - blood cultures  <b>P</b> Penicillin allergy: seek advice from Microbiologist  Review in the light of cultures  i/v therapy for at least 2 weeks followed by oral therapy for total of 4-6 weeks  Consultants may advise higher doses in some patients

#### Ceftriaxone i/v

Infusion over 30 minutes

Age	Dose
1 month - 12 years	Under 50 kg 80mg/ kg od  Over 50 kg 2-4 g daily
12 - 18 years	2 -4 g daily

#### Flucloxacillin i/v

Age	Dose
1 month - 18 years	50 mg/kg (max 2 g) every 6 hours

#### Flucloxacillin oral

Age	Dose
1 month - 2 years	125 mg qds
2 - 10 years	250 mg qds
10 - 18 years	500 mg qds

## ENT INFECTIONS [7]

IMPORTANT Before prescribing antibiotics	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>History of MRSA - contact Microbiologist</li> <li>Check for previous microbiology results</li> </ul>	<b>Take appropriate samples</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Pus and aspirate when available</li> <li>Throat swabs/ ear swabs if appropriate</li> <li>Blood cultures if systemic unwell</li> </ul>

INFECTION	USUAL ORGANISMS	ANTIMICROBIALS	COMMENTS
<b>Tonsillitis / Pharyngitis</b>	Majority viral  Group A, C, G <i>Streptococci</i>	Treatment not required unless bacterial infection suspected or confirmed  Mild infection <b>Penicillin V oral for 10 days</b>  Severe infection <b>Benzylpenicillin i/v</b> for 48 hours followed by oral as above  Total duration: 10 days	<p><b>P</b> Penicillin allergy</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1 month to 6 months <b>Clarithromycin oral</b> for 7 days</li> <li>Over 6 months <b>Azithromycin oral for 3 days</b></li> </ul> <p>If i/v needed, <b>Clarithromycin i/v</b></p>
<b>Peritonsillar Abscess (Quinsy)</b>	Group A, C, G <i>Streptococci</i> + / - <i>Anaerobes</i>	<b>Benzylpenicillin i/v</b> plus <b>Metronidazole i/v</b>  Change to oral <b>Co-amoxiclav</b> as clinical condition improves  Total duration: 10 days	<p>Discuss with ENT surgeons</p> <p><b>P</b> Penicillin allergy: seek advice from Microbiologist</p>

<b>Azithromycin oral</b> 10 mg/kg (max 500 mg) od or	<b>Benzylpenicillin i/v</b>	<b>Clarithromycin i/v</b>	<b>Clarithromycin oral</b>																																		
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## ENT INFECTIONS continued [7]

IMPORTANT Before prescribing antibiotics			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>History of MRSA</b> - contact Microbiologist</li> <li>• Check for previous microbiology results</li> </ul>		<b>Take appropriate samples</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pus and aspirate when available</li> <li>• Throat swabs/ ear swabs if appropriate</li> <li>• Blood cultures if systemic unwell</li> </ul>	
INFECTION	USUAL ORGANISMS	ANTIMICROBIALS	COMMENTS
<b>Otitis Externa</b>	Group A, C or G Streptococci Anaerobes  Staphylococcus aureus	May not be infective. Often respond to careful cleansing and topical steroid drops  Consider systemic antibiotics if spreading cellulitis or unwell <b>initially Flucloxacillin oral for 48 hours</b> Then review according to culture and sensitivity  Total duration 5-10 days depends on culture, and sensitivities	Take ear swabs for culture  <b>P</b> Penicillin allergy: • 1 month to 6 months <b>Clarithromycin oral for 5 days</b> • Over 6 months <b>Azithromycin oral for 3 days</b>
<b>Acute Otitis Media</b>	<i>Streptococcus pneumoniae</i>  <i>Haemophilus influenzae</i>	Mainly viral. 80% resolve without antimicrobials  <b>If antibiotic needed</b> <b>Amoxicillin oral</b>  if no improvement after 48 hours <b>Consider Co-amoxiclav oral</b>  Duration 5 days	<b>P</b> Penicillin allergy • 1 month to 6 months <b>Clarithromycin oral for 5 days</b> • Over 6 months <b>Azithromycin oral for 3 days</b>
<b>Chronic or Discharging Otitis Media</b>	<i>Streptococcus pneumoniae</i>  <i>Haemophilus influenzae</i>  <i>Staphylococcus aureus</i>	Discuss with ENT consultants  Consult Microbiologist regarding suitable antibiotics	Swab should be taken for culture
<b>Acute Sinusitis</b>	<i>Streptococcus pneumoniae</i>  <i>Haemophilus influenzae</i>  Viral	Consider antibiotics if persistent or severe symptoms  <b>Amoxicillin oral</b>  In severe infection initial parental therapy with <b>Co-amoxiclav i/v</b> <b>or</b> <b>Cefuroxime i/v</b> Total duration 7 days	<b>P</b> Penicillin allergy • 1 month to 6 months <b>Clarithromycin oral for 7 days</b> • Over 6 months <b>Azithromycin oral for 3 days</b>

## ENT INFECTIONS continued [7]

<b>Amoxicillin oral</b>		<b>Azithromycin oral</b> 10 mg/kg (max 500 mg) od or		<b>Cefuroxime i/v</b>		<b>Clarithromycin i/v</b>	
<i>Body weight</i>	<i>Dose</i>	<i>Body weight</i>	<i>Dose</i>	<i>Age</i>	<i>Dose</i>	<i>Age</i>	<i>Dose</i>
1 month - 1 year	125 mg tds	15 - 25 kg	200 mg od	1 month - 18 years	20 mg/kg (max 750 mg) every 8 hours increase to 50 mg/kg (max 1.5 g) every 6-8 hours in severe infections	1 month - 12 years	7.5 mg/kg bd
1 - 5 years	250 mg tds	26 - 35 kg	300 mg od			12 - 18 years	500 mg bd
5 - 18 years	500 mg tds	36 - 45 kg	400 mg od				
		Over 45 kg	500 mg od				
<b>Clarithromycin oral</b>		<b>Co-amoxiclav i/v</b>		<b>Co-amoxiclav oral</b>		<b>Flucloxacillin oral</b>	
<b>Age one month - 12 years</b>		<i>Age</i>	<i>Dose</i>	<i>Age</i>	<i>Dose</i>	<i>Age</i>	<i>Dose</i>
<i>Body weight</i>	<i>Dose</i>	1 month - 3 months	30 mg/kg every 12 hours	1 month - 1 year	125/31 susp 0.5 mL/ kg tds	1 month - 2 years	125 mg qds
less than 8 kg	7.5 mg/kg bd	3 months - 18 years	30 mg/kg (max 1.2 g) every 8 hours	1 - 6 years	250/62 susp 5 mL tds	2 - 10 years	250 mg qds
8 - 11 kg	62.5mg bd			6 - 12 years	250/62 susp 10 mL tds	10 - 18 years	500 mg qds
12 - 19 kg	125mg bd			12 - 18 years	500/125 tablets 1 tablet tds		
20 - 29 kg	187.5 mg bd						
30 - 40kg	250 mg bd						
<i>Age</i>	<i>Dose</i>						
12 - 18 years	500 mg bd						
<b>Metronidazole oral</b>		<b>Penicillin V oral</b>					
<i>Age</i>	<i>Dose</i>	<i>Age</i>	<i>Dose</i>				
1 - 2 months	7.5 mg/kg every 12 hours	1 month - 1 year	62.5 mg qds				
2 months - 12 years	7.5 mg/kg (max 400 mg) every 8 hours	1 - 6 years	125 mg qds				
12 years - 18 years	400 mg every 8 hours	6 - 12 years	250 mg qds				
		12 - 18 years	500 mg qds				
			in severe infections at least 12.5 mg/kg qds Maximum 1 g qds				

## ORAL AND MAXILLOFACIAL SURGERY INFECTIONS

### IMPORTANT Before prescribing antimicrobials

- **History of MRSA** - contact Microbiologist
- Check for previous microbiology results

#### Take appropriate samples

- Pus and aspirate when available
- Throat swabs/ ear swabs if appropriate
- Blood cultures if systemic unwell

INFECTION	USUAL ORGANISMS	ANTIMICROBIALS	COMMENTS
Acute infections including tissue space abscesses secondary to dental sepsis etc.	Oral and upper respiratory flora	Co-amoxiclav oral  Duration 5 days	<b>P</b> Penicillin allergy  Metronidazole oral

#### Co-amoxiclav oral

Age	Dose
1 month - 1 year	125/31susp 0.5 mL/ kg tds
1 - 6 years	250/62 susp 5 mL tds
6 - 12 years	250/62 susp 10 mL tds
12 - 18 years	500/125 tablets 1 tablet tds

#### Metronidazole oral

Age	Dose
1 - 2 months	7.5 mg/kg every 12 hours
2 months - 12 years	7.5 mg/kg (max 400 mg) every 8 hours
12 years - 18 years	400 mg every 8 hours

## EYE INFECTIONS [7]

IMPORTANT Before prescribing antimicrobials																																											
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>History of MRSA - contact Microbiologist</li> <li>Check for previous microbiology results</li> </ul>		<b>Take appropriate samples</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Eye swabs for culture, gram stain and for NUR if chlamydia suspected</li> <li>Slide for bacteria</li> </ul>																																									
INFECTION	USUAL ORGANISMS	ANTIMICROBIALS	COMMENTS																																								
<b>Conjunctivitis</b> Bacterial usually purulent	<i>Staphylococcus aureus</i> <i>Haemophilus influenzae</i> <i>Streptococcus pneumoniae</i> Group A C G <i>Streptococci</i>	<b>Chloramphenicol</b> 0.5% eye drops 2 hourly during the day and 1% ointment at night for 5 days  If inadequate response contact microbiologist																																									
	If MRSA  Confirmed <i>Chlamydia</i>	Contact Microbiologist  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1 month to 6 months <b>Clarithromycin oral for 14 days</b></li> <li>Over 6 months <b>Azithromycin oral 7 days</b></li> </ul>	Seek advice from Consultant Ophthalmologist  Consider vertical transmission in babies under 6 months  Consider swabs for virology																																								
<b>Viral Conjunctivitis</b> Usually non purulent	<i>Herpes</i> <i>Adenovirus</i>																																										
<b>Eye lid infections</b>		<b>Chloramphenicol eye ointment QDS</b>	Take conjunctival swabs and blood cultures																																								
<b>Periorbital cellulitis</b>	<i>Staphylococcus aureus</i>  <i>Haemophilus influenzae</i>  <i>Streptococcus pneumoniae</i>  <i>Anaerobes</i>	<b>Flucloxacillin i/v</b>  <b>plus</b>  <b>Cefotaxime i/v</b>  <b>If sinusitis likely or confirmed add Metronidazole i/v</b>	In severe infections discuss with Ophthalmologist  <b>P</b> Penicillin allergy: seek advice for Microbiologist  Review in the light of cultures  Consider oral following clinical improvement Co-amoxiclav oral  Total duration 7-10 days																																								
<b>Azithromycin oral</b> 10 mg/kg (max 500 mg) od or	<b>Cefotaxime i/v</b>	<b>Clarithromycin oral</b>	<b>Co-amoxiclav oral</b>																																								
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## GASTRO-INTESTINAL INFECTIONS [7]

IMPORTANT Before prescribing antibiotics	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>History of MRSA</b> – contact Microbiologist</li> <li>• Check for previous microbiology results</li> <li>• Check travel history/farm visits</li> </ul>	<b>Take appropriate samples</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Stool</li> </ul>

INFECTION	USUAL ORGANISMS	ANTIMICROBIALS	COMMENTS
<b>Oral thrush</b>		Nystatin suspension or Fluconazole oral for 5 days	
<b>Acute Gastro-enteritis</b>	<i>Viral-most common</i>  <i>Salmonella sp.</i>  <i>Shigella sp.</i>  <i>Campylobacter sp.</i>  <i>E coli 157</i>	Usually NOT required Invasive infection requires antibiotics - take blood cultures if septic  Antimicrobial treatment is recommended if persistent symptoms, immunocompromised or less than 3 months age	Cases should be barrier nursed  Food poisoning is a notifiable disease  Blood culture may be needed to rule out invasive salmonellosis
<b>Antibiotic associated diarrhoea</b>	<i>Clostridium difficile</i>	1st line <b>Metronidazole oral for 14 days</b>  2nd line following Microbiology advice <b>Vancomycin oral for 14 days</b>	STOP other antimicrobials if possible & discuss with Microbiologist  If no response after treatment seek advice from Microbiologist
<b>Typhoid fever</b>	<i>Salmonella typhi</i>	Discuss with Microbiologist	Suspect infection in febrile patients with a history of foreign travel Barrier nurse
<b>Biliary Infections</b>  <b>Cholangitis</b>  <b>Cholecystitis</b>	<i>Coliforms</i> <i>Gram negative organisms</i>	Discuss with Liver Unit (Leeds) or Paediatric gastroenterologist (Sheffield)	

INFECTION	USUAL ORGANISMS	ANTIMICROBIALS	COMMENTS
<b>Eradication of Helicobacter pylori</b>	<i>Helicobacter pylori</i>	Discuss with Gastroenterologist	
<b>Liver abscess</b>	<i>Coliforms</i> <i>Streptococci</i> <i>Anaerobes</i>	Seek advice from Hepatologist (Leeds) and Paediatric Surgeon	
<b>Viral Hepatitis B &amp; C</b>		Seek advice from Hepatologist (Leeds)	

### Metronidazole oral

Age	Dose
1 - 2 months	7.5 mg/kg every 12 hours
2 months - 12 years	7.5 mg/kg (max 400 mg) every 8 hours
12 years - 18 years	400 mg every 8 hours

### Fluconazole oral

Age	Dose
1 month - 18 years	3 mg/kg od Max 50mg

### Nystatin suspension

100 000 units /mL  
1mL QDS after feed

### Vancomycin oral

Age	Dose
1 month - 5 years	5 mg/kg qds
5 - 12 years	62.5 mg qds
12 - 18 years	125 mg qds



## SURGICAL PROPHYLAXIS [7, 19]

### Principles of Surgical Prophylaxis

<b>Choice of antimicrobials</b>	The selected antimicrobial for prophylaxis must cover the expected pathogen for that operative site
<b>MRSA carriage</b>	MRSA carriage should be eradicated with intranasal mupirocin and/or octenisan prior to surgery.
<b>History of MRSA</b>	A glycopeptide must be given, for example Teicoplanin.
<b>Timing of administration</b>	Antimicrobial should be administered before tourniquet is applied and 30-60 minutes before skin incision
<b>Dose of antimicrobials</b>	A single dose of antimicrobial with a long enough activity through the operation is recommended.  A longer course of 24 hours may be necessary in high risk surgery
<b>Additional dose</b>	Should be considered if major intraoperative blood loss
<b>Routes of administration</b>	Prophylactic antimicrobials should be administered intravenously.
<b>Writing prescription</b>	On the 'once only' section of the Medicine Chart.

### Classification of surgery

<b>Class</b>	<b>Type</b>
Clean	No inflammation No entry into respiratory, alimentary or urinary tract
Clean - contaminated	Entry into respiratory, alimentary or urinary tract but without significant spillage
Contaminated	Acute infection (without pus) Visible contamination of the wound Compound open injuries less than 4 hours old
Dirty	In the presence of pus Previously perforated hollow viscus Visible contamination of the wound Compound open injuries more than 4 hours old

## SURGICAL PROPHYLAXIS [7, 19]

Timing: administer i/v antimicrobial 30-60 minutes before incision				
PROCEDURE	1st line	Patients with Penicillin allergy	Patients with history of MRSA	
<b>Clean Surgery:</b> e.g. hernias, circumcision tonsillectomy	<b>No antimicrobials</b>			
<b>Appendicectomy</b>	<b>Cefuroxime i/v plus Metronidazole i/v</b>  If perforation <b>Continue for 5 days</b>	Non-life threatening allergy <b>Cefuroxime i/v plus Metronidazole i/v</b>  Life threatening <b>Gentamicin i/v plus Metronidazole i/v</b>  If perforation <b>Continue for 5 days</b>	<b>Gentamicin i/v plus Metronidazole i/v plus Teicoplanin i/v</b>  If perforation <b>Continue for 5 days</b>	
<b>Orthopaedic surgery</b>	<b>Cefuroxime i/v</b> every 8 hours for 3 doses  If trauma Add Metronidazole i/v every 8 hours for 3 doses	Non-life threatening allergy <b>Cefuroxime i/v</b>  Life threatening <b>Gentamicin i/v plus Teicoplanin i/v</b>  If trauma Add Metronidazole i/v every 8 hours for 3 doses	<b>Gentamicin i/v plus Teicoplanin i/v</b>  If trauma Add Metronidazole i/v every 8 hours for 3 doses	
<b>Major head and neck surgery, Fracture of mandibles</b>	<b>Co-amoxiclav i/v</b> at induction plus • <b>3 months or older</b> Two further doses every 8 hours • <b>1 - 3 months</b> One further dose after 12 hours  Further doses may be given at the discretion of the Surgeon.	Non-life threatening allergy <b>Cefuroxime i/v plus Metronidazole</b>  Life threatening allergy <b>Teicoplanin i/v plus Gentamicin i/v plus Metronidazole i/v</b>	<b>Gentamicin i/v plus Metronidazole i/v plus Teicoplanin i/v</b>	
<b>Clinical Radiology</b>				
<b>Splenectomy</b>  Vaccination Please refer to post-splenectomy prophylaxis policy (Appendix G)	<b>Co-amoxiclav i/v</b>	Non-life threatening allergy <b>Cefuroxime i/v</b>  Life threatening allergy Discuss with Microbiologist	<b>Gentamicin i/v plus Metronidazole i/v plus Teicoplanin i/v</b>	
<b>Cefuroxime i/v</b> 50 mg/kg Max 1.5 g	<b>Co-amoxiclav i/v</b> 30 mg/kg Max 1.2 g	<b>Gentamicin i/v</b> 2.5 mg/kg	<b>Metronidazole i/v</b> 30 mg/kg Max 500 mg	<b>Teicoplanin i/v</b> 10 mg/kg Max 400 mg

## MEDICAL PROPHYLAXIS [7, 21]

INFECTION	ANTIMICROBIALS																	
Meningococcal Disease/ Meningitis CONTACTS  [22]	<b>CIPROFLOXACIN</b> Children one month to 5 years Children aged 5 to 12 years Children over 12 years and adults	<b>CIPROFLOXACIN</b> 30 mg/kg (max 125 mg) single dose 250 mg single dose 500 mg single dose																
	<b>RIFAMPICIN</b> Infants under 12 months of age  Children aged 1 – 12 years  Children over 12 years and adults	<b>Rifampicin oral</b> 5 mg/kg (max 600 mg) every 12 hours for 2 days  <b>Rifampicin oral</b> 10 mg/kg (max 600 mg) every 12 hours for 2 days  <b>Rifampicin oral</b> 600 mg every 12 hours for 2 days																
	<b>Pregnancy</b>	<b>Ceftriaxone</b> 250 mg i/m or <b>Azithromycin</b> 500 mg single dose																
Haemophilus Influenzae type b Disease CONTACTS	• Children who have never received any immunisation	<b>Age under 10 years</b> Three doses of DTaP/IPV/Hib vaccine																
	• Children who have never received Hib vaccine, but have been immunised against diphtheria, tetanus, pertussis, and polio	<b>Age under 1 years</b> Three doses of Hib/MenC vaccine <b>Age between 1 and 10 years</b> One dose of Hib/MenC vaccine																
	• Children who have received Hib vaccine in infancy but who did not receive a booster dose of Hib containing vaccine after the age of 12 months	<b>Age between 1 and 10 years</b> One dose of Hib/MenC vaccine																
	• At risk individuals (under 10 years, immunosuppressed, asplenic), index case and all household contacts	<b>Rifampicin for 4 days</b> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Age</th> <th>Dose</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>1 month - 3 months</td> <td>10 mg/kg od</td> </tr> <tr> <td>3 months - 10 years</td> <td>20 mg/kg (max 600) OD</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Age	Dose	1 month - 3 months	10 mg/kg od	3 months - 10 years	20 mg/kg (max 600) OD										
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Whooping Cough CONTACTS	Antibiotic prophylaxis to unimmunised or partially immunised vulnerable contacts following discussion with local HPU	<b>Consultant in Communicable Diseases</b> <b>0900 – 1700 01142 321117</b> <b>1700 – 0900 via switch board</b>																
Post splenectomy / Asplenic patients (or sickle cell disease patients)	<b>Penicillin V oral</b>  Penicillin allergy: Erythromycin oral  Vaccinations Please refer to Splenectomy Guidelines (Appendix G)	<b>Penicillin V oral</b> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Age</th> <th>Dose</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Less than 1 year</td> <td>62.5 mg bd</td> </tr> <tr> <td>1 - 5 years</td> <td>125 mg bd</td> </tr> <tr> <td>5 -18 years</td> <td>250 mg bd</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <b>Erythromycin oral</b> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Age</th> <th>Dose</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>one month - 2 years</td> <td>125 mg bd</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2 - 8 years</td> <td>250 mg bd</td> </tr> <tr> <td>8 -18 years</td> <td>500 mg bd</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Age	Dose	Less than 1 year	62.5 mg bd	1 - 5 years	125 mg bd	5 -18 years	250 mg bd	Age	Dose	one month - 2 years	125 mg bd	2 - 8 years	250 mg bd	8 -18 years	500 mg bd
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Tuberculosis Prophylaxis Susceptible close contacts or those who have become tuberculin positive	Discuss with Paediatric consultant TB specialist and refer to NICE guidance																	

## PROPHYLAXIS AGAINST INFECTIVE ENDOCARDITIS [16]

### Introduction

Antibiotics have been offered routinely as a preventative measure to help people at risk of infective endocarditis undergoing interventional procedures. However, there is little evidence to support this practice. Antibiotic prophylaxis has not been proven to be effective and there is no clear association between episodes of infective endocarditis and interventional procedures. Any benefits of prophylaxis need to be weighed against the risks of adverse effects for the patient and of antibiotics resistance developing. As a result this guidance recommends that antibiotic prophylaxis is no longer offered routinely for defined interventional procedures.

### Summary of recommendations

#### Adults and children with structural cardiac conditions.

Regard people with the following cardiac conditions as being at risk of developing infective endocarditis:

- Acquired valvular heart disease with stenosis and regurgitation
- Valve replacement
- Structural congenital heart disease, including surgically corrected or palliated structural conditions, but excluding isolated septal defect, fully repaired patent ductus arteriosus and closure devices that are judged to be endothelial
- Hypertrophic cardiomyopathy
- Previous infective endocarditis

### Advice

Offer people at risk of infective endocarditis clear and consistent information about prevention, including:

- The benefits and risks of antibiotic prophylaxis, and an explanation of why antibiotic prophylaxis is no longer routinely recommended
- The importance of maintaining good oral health
- Symptoms that may indicate infective endocarditis and when to seek expert advice
- The risks of undergoing invasive procedures, including non-medical procedures such as body piercing or tattooing.

### When to offer prophylaxis

Do not offer antibiotic prophylaxis against infective endocarditis-

- To people undergoing dental procedures
- To people undergoing non-dental procedures at the following sites:
  1. upper and lower gastrointestinal tract
  2. genitourinary tract: this includes urological, gynaecological and obstetric procedure and childbirth
  3. upper and lower respiratory tract, this includes ear, nose and throat procedures and bronchoscopy
- Do not offer chlorhexidine mouthwash as prophylaxis against infective endocarditis to people at risk undergoing dental procedures
- Discuss with microbiology if the patients' clinical status is of a complex nature.

### Managing infection

- Investigate and treat promptly any episodes of infection in people at risk of infective endocarditis to reduce the risk of endocarditis developing
- Discuss with microbiology if a person at risk of infective endocarditis is receiving antimicrobial therapy because they are undergoing gastrointestinal or genitourinary procedures at a site where there is a suspected infection.

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## APPENDIX A THERAPEUTIC DRUG MONITORING

### Aminoglycosides (Gentamicin, Tobramycin)

Paediatric use of gentamicin is mainly restricted to treatment of endocarditis, cystic fibrosis in the neonatal period, for patients with penicillin allergies for surgical prophylaxis and for the treatment of serious infections. Amikacin and tobramycin are used in cases of resistance to gentamicin.

**Aminoglycosides are excreted via the kidneys and therefore accumulation occurs in renal impairment. The side effects associated with toxic levels are hearing and balance disorders and further renal impairment. These drugs should be used with caution particularly in children with renal impairment.**

**Patients and their carers must be informed of potential side effects.**

#### Dose calculation and monitoring serum concentration

- The dose and dose interval must be based on child's ideal body weight and renal function.
- Serum concentrations must be monitored to avoid both excessive and sub-therapeutic levels.
- The doses must be given at the times prescribed.
- Serum concentrations must be monitored according to the regimens.
- Time of dose and time of blood sample must be documented at all times, otherwise the results can not be acted upon.
- The treatment with aminoglycosides must be reviewed daily.

Renal function must be monitored regularly throughout the treatment.

### Glycopeptides (Vancomycin and Teicoplanin)

Glycopeptides are used for some surgical prophylaxis and for the treatment of infections on the advice of microbiologists.

#### Intravenous vancomycin dose calculations and monitoring serum concentrations

- Vancomycin dose and dose interval must be based on patient's ideal body weight and renal function when treating infections.
- Serum concentrations must be monitored to avoid both excessive and subtherapeutic levels.
- The doses must be given at the times prescribed.
- Serum concentrations must be monitored according to the regimens.
- Time of dose and time of blood sample must be documented at all times, otherwise the results can not be acted upon.
- The treatment with vancomycin must be reviewed daily.

Renal function must be monitored regularly throughout the treatment.

**Teicoplanin** serum levels require monitoring in deep seated infections to ensure that adequate levels have been achieved.

## APPENDIX B Therapeutic drug monitoring - Gentamicin Conventional Dose Regimen

<b>Patient details</b> required to advise /revise Gentamicin dose	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Clinical diagnosis</li> <li>• Height, weight, age</li> <li>• Serum creatinine</li> <li>• Gentamicin - dose, times of doses - serum levels and times</li> </ul>
<b>Prescribing Gentamicin</b>	2.5 mg/kg every 8 hours
<b>Therapeutic serum levels</b> Pre dose (trough) levels – immediately before dose. Post dose (peak) – one hour after	Less than 2mg/L 5 -10 mg/L
<b>Administration</b>	Intravenous bolus over 3 – 5 minutes or infusion over 30 minutes. Pharmacy can prepare syringes
<b>Monitoring</b>	Blood levels on the 3rd dose. <b>Important</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Blood samples must be taken via a venepuncture</li> </ul>
<b>Blood sampling times</b>	Pre dose (trough) levels – immediately before dose. Post dose (peak) – one hour after



## APPENDIX C Therapeutic Drug Monitoring - Teicoplanin

<p><b>Patient details</b> required to advise /revise Teicoplanin dose</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Clinical diagnosis</li> <li>• Height, weight, age</li> <li>• Serum creatinine</li> <li>• Teicoplanin - dose, times of doses - serum levels and times</li> </ul>
<p><b>Prescribing Teicoplanin</b></p>	<p>1 month – 18 years 10 mg/kg (max 400 mg) every 12 hours for 3 doses then 6 mg/kg (max 200 mg) once daily</p> <p>In severe infections 10 mg/kg (max 400 mg) every 12 hours for 3 doses then 10 mg/kg (max 400 mg) once daily</p>
<p><b>Therapeutic serum levels</b> Trough (pre dose)</p>	<p>More than 10 mg/L</p> <p>More than 20 mg/L for osteomyelitis, serious infections or immunocompromised</p>
<p><b>Administration</b></p>	<p>Intravenous bolus over 3 – 5 minutes or infusion over 30 minutes.</p>
<p><b>Monitoring</b></p>	<p>Blood levels on the 5th dose.</p> <p><b>Important</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Blood samples must be taken via a venepuncture, not from any existing venous access.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Blood sampling times</b></p>	<p>Pre dose (trough) levels - immediately before dose.</p> <p>Prearrange with Microbiology before taking any blood samples as not assayed on site.</p>

## APPENDIX D Therapeutic Drug Monitoring - Tobramycin

<p><b>Patient details</b> required to advise /revise Tobramycin dose</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Clinical diagnosis</li> <li>• Weight</li> <li>• Serum creatinine</li> <li>• Tobramycin - dose, times of doses - serum levels and times</li> </ul>
<p><b>Prescribing Tobramycin</b> Dose (symmetric dosing)</p>	<p><i>Loading dose</i> 10 mg/kg (MAXIMUM DOSE 660 mg) once daily in 60mL Sodium chloride 0.9% Infused over 30 minutes</p>
<p><b>Therapeutic serum levels</b></p>	<p>Blood samples taken 12 hours after dose</p> <p>MUST be less than 2 mg/L</p> <p><b>Levels outside the target range MUST be discussed with senior member of the CF team and or the pharmacist and or the microbiologist</b></p>
<p><b>Administration</b></p>	<p><b>Important</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Doses must be given at prescribed times otherwise interpretation is difficult.</li> <li>• Document on Drug Kardex the EXACT time the dose is given.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Monitoring Tobramycin levels</b></p>	<p>Monitor blood level 12 hours after first dose.</p> <p>If level is satisfactory and renal function is normal a further level should be done at the start of each week of treatment</p> <p><b>Important</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Peripheral venous blood samples are required (NOT from long line)</b></li> <li>• Document the EXACT times the blood samples are taken on Drug Kardex and Laboratory Request Forms.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Monitor renal function</b></p>	<p>Check U&amp;E before commencing tobramycin and weekly while on treatment</p>

## APPENDIX E Therapeutic Drug Monitoring - Vancomycin

<p><b>Patient details</b> required to advise /revise Tobramycin dose</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Clinical diagnosis</li> <li>• Weight</li> <li>• Serum creatinine</li> <li>• Tobramycin - dose, times of doses - serum levels and times</li> </ul>
<p><b>Prescribing Vancomycin</b></p> <p>Dose (Symmetric dosing)</p>	<p><i>In normal renal function</i> Age 1 year - 16 years 15 mg/kg every 8 hours (Maximum daily dose 2 g) Age 17 years - 18 years 1 g 12 hourly</p> <p>Impaired renal function - contact Microbiologist</p>
<p><b>Therapeutic serum levels</b></p> <p>Pre dose (trough)</p>	<p>10 - 15 mg/L</p>
<p><b>Administration</b></p>	<p>Reconstitute 1 g vial with 20 mL water for injection Dilute 1 g with fluid 250 mL Infusion fluid Max concentration 5 mg/ml</p> <p>Infusion fluid: sodium chloride 0.9% or glucose 5%</p> <p>Intravenous infusion rate 10 mg /minute over 60 minutes</p> <p><b>Important</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Doses must be given at prescribed times otherwise interpretation is difficult.</li> <li>• Document on Drug Kardex the EXACT time the dose is given.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Monitoring blood levels</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Immediately before giving the 4th dose.</li> <li>• Repeat level twice a week if levels and the renal function stable.</li> </ul> <p><b>Important</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Blood samples must be taken via a venepuncture, not from any existing venous access.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Sampling times</b></p>	<p>Pre dose (trough) levels - immediately before the dose.</p>
<p><b>Monitor renal function</b></p>	<p>Daily</p>

## APPENDIX F Post splenectomy prevention of infections

### Advice for Clinicians

#### All clinical areas including Inpatients and Outpatients

Children that have had splenectomies, or who have conditions causing hyposplenism, are at risk of infections. The organisms are usually encapsulated bacteria, of which *Streptococcus pneumoniae* is the most common but includes *Haemophilus influenzae* and *Neisseria meningitidis*. Other pathogens include *Pseudomonas aeruginosa*, and *Capnocytophaga canimorsus* from dog and animal bites. They are also at risk from other infections including protozoa (malaria and babesiosis).

The incidence of overwhelming post splenectomy infections is 0.18-0.432% per year. The mortality may be as high as 69%. There is lifelong risk of infection, but it is thought to be increased in the first two years post-splenectomy. The risk of infection is increased in children with Thalassaemia and sickle cell disease. Children with Hodgkin's disease, or immunosuppression through disease are also at greater risk.

### PATIENT AND CARER EDUCATION

1. Information leaflet regarding infection risks and alert card
2. Medic alert bracelet
3. Regular antibiotics
4. Vaccination
5. Attend hospital if unwell
6. Seek advice before travelling abroad

### SPLENECTOMY ALERT

1. Complete the child data alert inside the front cover of patient's notes.
2. Inform the patient's General Practitioner that the child has had a splenectomy and communicate vaccinations given in the hospital. Primary care records need to be marked concerning the patient's increased risk of infection and vaccination status.
3. Ensure that the child or the carer has been given a splenectomy leaflet and alert card (available from the Haematology Department on request).
4. Encourage the child and the carer to obtain a medic alert, disc, or carry an alert card.
5. There is a small risk of splenectomised individuals being exposed to infective biological materials in certain occupations. This needs to be considered as part of future career advice.
6. A child who has had a splenectomy, or who is hyposplenic, who becomes unwell and may have developed an infection, needs to be admitted to hospital for systemic antibiotics.

### IMMUNISATION

#### Planned splenectomy

Immunisation should ideally be given four to six weeks (at least two weeks) prior to planned splenectomy as long as there is no history of allergy.

#### Emergency splenectomy

Immediately after an emergency splenectomy, child's ability to mount antibody response is low and therefore immunisation should be given when the patient is recovering, prior to discharge from hospital.

- a) Pneumococcal polysaccharide vaccine (Pneumovax II) or pneumococcal polysaccharide conjugate vaccine (Prevenar 13). Revaccination is recommended every 5 years in individuals in whom antibody levels may decline more rapidly e.g. with sickle disease, and lymphoproliferative disease.

- b) Haemophilus influenzae type b vaccine conjugate and meningococcal C vaccine (combined Hib/ MenC).
- Children under 2 years

Vaccination according to the childhood immunisation schedule.

The booster dose of Haemophilus influenzae type b vaccine (combined with Meningococcal group C Conjugate vaccine) given at 12-13 months of age should be followed at least one month later by one dose of meningococcal A, C, W135 and Y conjugate vaccine.

An additional dose of Haemophilus influenzae type b vaccine (combined with Meningococcal group C Conjugate vaccine) should be given after the second birthday.

- Children over 2 years

One dose of Haemophilus influenzae type b vaccine (combined with Meningococcal group C conjugate vaccine), followed one month later by one dose of meningococcal A, C, W135 and Y conjugate vaccine.

### Other vaccination considerations

- Influenza vaccine should be offered annually.
- Quadrivalent meningococcal ACWY vaccine should be offered if going to an endemic area on holiday. Protection from infection with this particular vaccine is short lived.
- Ensure vaccination and re-vaccination status is documented in notes.
- Patients that have had a splenectomy in the past should be offered vaccinations but consideration of lifelong antibiotic prophylaxis should be discussed with the patient.

## ANTIBIOTICS

- Children and their carers should be advised to continue antibiotics lifelong. Normally, penicillin or erythromycin if allergic to penicillin.
- If there are concerns about adherence to antibiotic prophylaxis lifelong, it may be appropriate for them to have a course of antibiotics at home for 'at risk' situations. This could also be given to all children to be taken if they begin to feel unwell. Patients taking erythromycin should be advised to increase this to therapeutic doses if they begin to feel unwell.

Importance of seeking prompt medical attention if unwell and develop signs of infection must be emphasized to the child and their carers. Persistent failure to adhere to advice about prophylaxis may require social concerns to be addressed.

- Patients developing infection despite the above measures may need to be admitted as an emergency for intravenous antibiotics.

## TRAVEL

- Patients who have had a splenectomy, or have conditions causing hyposplenism, are at potential risk with overseas travel. Specialist advice may be obtained from infectious disease or tropical disease units.
- Consider giving the patient a course of antibiotics to take with them on holiday. Patients visiting areas with meningitis should be offered the meningococcal ACWY conjugate vaccine.
- The main protozoal infections that cause problems associated with splenectomy are malaria and babesiosis. Patients travelling to regions with malaria should be advised to assiduously follow standard recommendations regarding basic preventative measures, prophylaxis and diagnosis and treatment of suspected malaria. Asplenic patients with malaria may have delayed clearance of parasites from the blood stream despite appropriate treatment. If they feel unwell on returning from holiday they should be advised to inform healthcare professional that they have been to a malarial area.
- Babesiosis is a tick borne protozoal disease with similar clinical manifestations to malaria; the disease is rare and confined to a few regions around the world. Treatment for this includes a combination of clindamycin and quinine.

### References

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<b>ROTHERHAM NHS FOUNDATION TRUST</b> Telephone number 01709 820000		<b>BARNSELY HOSPITAL NHS FOUNDATION TRUST</b> Telephone number 01226730000	
<b>On call Consultant Paediatrician or Paediatric Registrar</b> via switchboard		<b>On call Consultant Paediatrician or Paediatric Registrar</b> via switchboard	
<b>Consultant Medical Microbiologist</b>	7712	<b>Consultant Medical Microbiologist</b>	2749
<b>Associate Specialist</b>	4742	<b>Consultant Medical Microbiologist</b>	4986
<b>Clinical Scientist</b>	4741	<b>Biomedical Scientist</b>	3044
<b>Paediatric Pharmacist</b>	Bleep 8151	<b>Paediatric Pharmacist</b>	2047
<b>Medicines Information Pharmacist</b>	4126	<b>Medicines Information Pharmacist</b>	2857
<b>Pharmacist Antimicrobial Lead</b>	8132	<b>Pharmacist Antimicrobial Lead</b>	Bleep 688

## Out of hours – contact appropriate on-call staff via switchboard

### Authors

Professor Al-Wali	Consultant Microbiologist
Dr Asensio	Associate Specialist Microbiologist
Dr Gupta	Consultant Paediatrician
Dr Harrison	Consultant Paediatrician
Dr Pang	Consultant Microbiologist
Dr Rao	Consultant Microbiologist
S Ahuja	Medicines Evaluation Pharmacist
A-M Bester	Pharmacist Paediatrics
G Lawson	Pharmacist Antimicrobials
D Mowbray	Pharmacist Paediatrics
S Sutcliffe	Pharmacist Paediatrics

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Sheffield Hospitals	Guidelines for cystic fibrosis
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## Types of Antimicrobials

### ANTIBACTERIALS

<b>Betalactams</b>			
<b>Penicillins</b> Amoxicillin Benzylpenicillin Co-amoxiclav Flucloxacillin Penicillin V Piperacillin/tazobactam Temocillin	<b>Cephalosporins</b> Cefalexin Cefotaxime Ceftazadime Ceftriaxone Cefuroxime	<b>Carbapenems</b> Ertapenem Imipenem Meropenem	<b>Monobactam</b> Aztreonam
<b>Macrolides</b>	<b>Tetracyclines</b>	<b>Quinolones</b>	<b>Sulphonamides</b>
Azithromycin Clarithromycin Erythromycin	Doxycycline Minocycline Tigecycline	Ciprofloxacin Ofloxacin	Co-trimoxazole
<b>Aminoglycosides</b>	<b>Glycopeptides</b>	<b>Others</b>	
Amikacin Gentamicin Tobramycin	Teicoplanin Vancomycin	Chloramphenicol Colomycin Linezolid Metronidazole Nitrofurantoin	Rifampicin Sodium fusidate (Fusidic acid) Trimethoprim

### ANTIFUNGALS

Amphotericin (Ambisome®) Caspofungin Fluconazole Voriconazole	Itraconazole Miconazole Nystatin Terbinafine		
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### ANTIVIRALS

Aciclovir Famciclovir Valaciclovir			
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See BNF for further details and drugs not listed



**Rotherham Hospital**  
Moorgate Road  
Oakwood  
Rotherham  
S60 2UD

Telephone 01709 820000  
[www.therotherhamft.nhs.uk](http://www.therotherhamft.nhs.uk)

**Barnsley Hospital**  
Gawber Road  
Barnsley  
S75 2EP

Telephone 01226 730000  
[www.barnsleyhospital.nhs.uk](http://www.barnsleyhospital.nhs.uk)